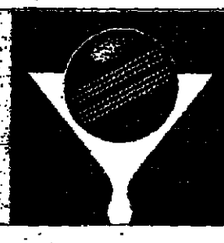


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A RUM GAME, CRICKET

Caribbean idols out on the tiles
John Woodcock, page 36



SPOT ON

Glamour goes in for the kill with animal-print designs, **page 14**

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THE TIMES

No. 65,233 WEDNESDAY APRIL 5 1995

Bottomley attacked over closures

Tory threat of revolt on hospitals

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

VIRGINIA BOTTOMLEY was last night facing a backbench Tory revolt over the closure of London hospitals after one of her former Cabinet colleagues accused her of lacking the "moral courage" to defend her decisions in the Commons.

The extraordinary attack came from Peter Brooke, the former National Heritage Secretary, after the Health Secretary confirmed plans to close St Bartholomew's, which was founded in 1123 and is the only hospital in the City of London.

Mrs Bottomley also confirmed that Guy's Hospital, founded in 1725, is to be run down. Its accident and emergency department, however, has won a reprieve until the end of 1998.

The Health Secretary announced her decisions in a written Commons reply. Mr Brooke, MP for the City of London and Westminster South, told Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker of the Commons: "I hope you will allow me the licence to remark that the next time a secretary of state closes a hospital that is nearly 900 years old, the then secretary of state will have the moral courage to come to the dispatch box".

Mr Brooke was supported in the House by Sir John Gorst, the Conservative MP for Hendon North, and it was clear last night that a sizeable number of Tory MPs have grave reservations about Mrs Bottomley's proposals.

The opposition parties plan to stage a Commons vote on the package after Easter and, with the Government's majority down to 13, ministers are facing the prospect of an embarrassing defeat.



Bottomley: asked to show courage

Sir John and Sir Rhodes Boyson, MP for Brent North, said they would vote against the decision to close the accident and emergency department at Edgware General Hospital. Sir John later accused ministers of "political lunacy, arrogance, stupidity, blindness and deafness".

John Redwood, the Welsh Secretary, also launched what appeared to be a thinly veiled attack on the Health Secretary. He told MPs at the Welsh Grand Committee that he was checking the pace of hospital closures in Wales because the public preferred local hospitals even if they were older and less well-equipped.

"I have asked the health authorities to slow down their passion for reorganising. It must be based on health arguments, not financial considerations," he said.

A spokesman for the Department of Health strongly defended Mrs Bottomley's handling of the affair last night, saying she had unveiled her initial strategy with an oral statement and that subsequent announcements had been made by written answer or by press notice.

It is understood that Mrs Bottomley had talks with Mr Brooke on Monday night. Her friends said she was the last person to be accused of lacking courage in pushing through a reorganisation that had been urged by health experts many times before, but had been ducked by successive governments.

The health spokesman said three debates on the future of London health services had been staged in the past six months, and ministers had kept MPs with a constituency interest fully informed.

Sir Rhodes said yesterday that his constituents faced a journey of up to an hour to get to their nearest accident and emergency department. "By the time they get there, most of them will be dead. I have told the whips I will vote against this and that they cannot count on my support in any other votes on healthcare in London."

Simon Hughes, one of the three chairmen of the Save Guy's campaign and the Liberal Democrat MP for Southwark and Bermondsey, condemned the decision to close the Guy's accident and emergency unit. He said about 15 Tory MPs were prepared to vote against the Government over its plans for Guy's — more than the Government's majority.

ANDRE CAMARA



Nurses and doctors celebrate a reprieve until 1999 for the accident and emergency unit at Guy's Hospital in Southwark, south London

Cash-for-questions Tories face ban

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TWO Conservative MPs will be banned from the Commons after Easter for being prepared to accept £1,000 to table questions to ministers.

David Tredinnick and Graham Riddick will be suspended for four weeks and two weeks respectively if MPs endorse the recommendations of the Commons Privileges Select Committee. Their salaries will be docked by about £900 for Mr Riddick, MP for Colne Valley, and £1,800 for Mr Tredinnick, MP for Bosworth. Mr Tredinnick's punishment will be the heaviest imposed by MPs for nearly 50 years. The suspensions will cut the Government's majority to 11, but with nine Tories deprived of the whip, in effect it will have a temporary minority of seven.

The report concluded that the behaviour of both MPs "fell below the standards which the House is entitled to expect from its members". Mr Tredinnick agreed yesterday that he had made mistakes and said he would apologise to the Commons when MPs debated the report.

William Walker, MP for Tayside North, who asked for £1,000 to be paid to a charity, was said by the report to have acted unwisely and to have made an error of judgment. No punishment was recommended.

As the recommendations were agreed by all parties on the committee, they are unlikely to be rejected by the Commons, although the matter could be pushed to a vote. The report does not specify it, but suspension usually means that MPs are refused entry certainly to the Commons Chamber and normally to the precincts of the Palace of Westminster altogether. There have been cases, however, in which MPs have been suspended from the Chamber but not the building.

The Commons inquiry was launched in July after journalists from *The Sunday Times* approached more than 20 MPs offering to make payments on a consultancy basis.

The two MPs resigned as ministerial aides last summer, when newspaper disclosures about their conduct refuelled the long-running "sleaze" controversy and prompted John Major to set up the Nolan inquiry into standards of conduct in public life. MPs have criticised the newspaper for trying to trap MPs into accepting payments, but the report does not suggest any sanctions against the journalists involved. It does conclude, however, that the newspaper's "conduct of its inquiries fell substantially below the standards to be expected of legitimate investigative journalism".

☐ The criticism of *The Sunday Times* came on the day its Insight team won two British Press Awards, Team Journalism of the Year and Exclusive of the Year, for its exposure of the cash-for-questions affair.

MPs questioned, page 2
Politics, page 8

Clarke cools tax cut fever

Kenneth Clarke warned Tory MPs to stop flying kites as he sought to rein in expectations of big tax cuts over the next two years. The day after John Major hinted that he expected substantial cuts this November and next, the alarmed Chancellor told colleagues that it would be "reckless" to write Budgets two or three years in advance .....Page 2

Spain rejects EU fish peace deal

The fish war between Spain and Canada flared again when it became clear that Madrid's objections to a Monday-night EU draft deal offering Spain 8,000 tonnes of the Grand Banks catch were so profound as to scupper the chances of a solution.....Page 10

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BBC considers appeal to European Court over ban

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, ANDREW PIERCE AND JILL SHERMAN

THE BBC last night was considering an appeal to the European Court of Justice after losing its right to broadcast in Scotland a banned *Panorama* interview with John Major before tomorrow's Scottish local elections.

The BBC suffered its third courtroom defeat in 24 hours yesterday when it was refused the right to appeal against the ban to the House of Lords by three appeal court judges at the Court of Session, Scotland's supreme civil court.

The decision sparked a bout of bitter recriminations within the BBC in London, which had been warned by BBC Scotland of the perils of a court challenge. Opposition parties claimed that the ruling had vindicated their complaints about the decision to screen the programme three days before the elections.

George Robertson, the Shadow Scottish Secretary, said: "This is a blow in favour of balanced public service broadcasting and also for the independence of the BBC. The Scottish law lords have strengthened the hand of the BBC against those who have sought to pressurise it."

Alasdair Milne, a former Director-General of the BBC, accused the corporation of "bizarre and dim-witted" behaviour in agreeing to the interview so close to an election. "The whole thing is a shambles. The BBC should have heeded the warnings from the Scots. To have put the BBC in this position, with the dangers of precedence the court decision has created, is crass idiocy. The BBC has knowingly exposed itself to the accusation that Mr Major was being given preferential treatment."

Lord Hope, the Lord President, Scotland's most senior judge, yesterday left the way open for the Scottish courts to consider the issues of law raised by the hearing at a later date. Lord Hope, sitting with Lord McCluskey and Lord Murray, said the issues were vital to the public interest in Scotland and England. There was no dispute that the Court of Session would have to consider them when there was time to listen to full argument.

At the Court of Session on Monday Labour and the Liberal Democrats won a court order banning the broadcast.

The BBC said in a statement: "The BBC will continue to seek a way to ask the courts to test the underlying principle — and that is simply, who is to decide the content and timing of political programmes."

BBC's mistake, page 5
Letters, and Leading article, page 15
Brenda Maddox, page 28

RAF's nuclear role to end in 1998

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE RAF is to lose its nuclear role after 42 years with the announcement yesterday that the WE177 freefall bomb is to be scrapped. The air-launched nuclear bombs will be withdrawn by the end of 1998, Nicholas Soames, Armed Forces Minister, said in a written Commons answer. The Ministry of Defence had intended to keep the weapon until 2007.

The axeing of an estimated 100 WE177 bombs means that Britain's nuclear deterrent will be represented by a single weapons system: the Trident ballistic missile bought from the United States. Malcolm Rifkind, Defence Secretary, said last year that Trident would take on a secondary sub-strategic role that would give the Royal Navy the twin responsibilities of providing both long and shorter-range nuclear deterrent.

The decision to bring forward the scrapping of the WE177 is part of the Government's attempt "to show good faith" in meeting its obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Negotiations to extend the treaty begin in New York on April 17.

The WE177 bomb is carried by RAF Tornado GR1 strike aircraft at a cost of £20 million a year. The RAF's first nuclear bomber was the Valiant, which became operational in 1956.

During the Cold War, RAF bombers were part of quick-reaction alert squadrons, but were never allowed to patrol with nuclear payload because of strict safety rules. In the Cuban missile crisis of 1962 the RAF's nuclear bomb-carrying aircraft were on red alert 24 hours a day.

By 1998 the Royal Navy will have three Trident ballistic missile submarines in service, *HMS Vanguard, HMS Victorious*, and *HMS Vigilant*.

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Kenny Everett, zany king of the DJs, dies of Aids

BY DALYA ALBERGE
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

TRIBUTES poured in yesterday to Kenny Everett, the disc jockey with an outrageously manic sense of humour, who has died aged 50. Capital Radio's director of programmes described him as the best DJ Britain has produced.

Everett, best known for the catchphrase "all done in the best possible taste", disclosed in April 1993 that he had the HIV virus. The next day he joked with fans outside London's Capital Radio: "I'm dying, and you're calling for Tony Blackburn!" Asked how he would like to be remembered, he said: "I'll put on my gravestone, 'Ah Well'." Everett, the son of a Mersey tug skipper, began his career recording shows in the garden shed. By 1967 he had joined BBC Radio 1, but in 1970 he was dismissed after an unscripted joke about the then Transport Minister's wife.

He left Radio Luxembourg the same year after admitting on air to having smoked marijuana. Once said to have been fired more times than a cannon, he was given his first television programme by London Weekend Television.

Married at 21 because he thought it would "turn him straight", he was talking openly by the mid-1980s, at the height of his popularity, about life with Nikolai Grishanovitch, a former Soviet soldier who died of an Aids-related illness two years ago. Matthew Bannister, Controller of Radio 1, said yesterday: "Kenny Everett set the standard for creative pop radio. He was a great innovator, a wonderful manipulator of the medium and a genuinely funny man."

Richard Park, of Capital Radio, said: "Kenny Everett was the best DJ this country has produced. He was creative in the extreme, with a razor-sharp wit."

Chris Tarrant, the presenter, said: "The whole radio industry is deeply saddened. Kenny was with us at Christmas, still being optimistic and incredibly brave. He was the most original figure ever on British radio. He is totally irreplaceable."

Obituary, page 17



Everett: began career in garden shed

New man comes of age with a kiss and a nibble


Prescott: sad milestone

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

AS THE Commons tottered towards its Easter break, John Prescott, one-time ship's steward and activist in the National Union of Seamen, halted tantalisingly before pressing on to pass yet another sad milestone in his rake's progress from real to plastic politics. The sad milestone was Mr Prescott's very first soundbite. The tantalising pause beforehand was when Labour's Deputy Leader blew a kiss at Employment Minister Ann Widdecombe.

It was a breath of fresh air: the old, working-class, devil-may-care Prescott that we all remember, taunting a bossy Tory lady. Prescott had just entered the Chamber to deputise for Tony Blair at Prime Minister's Questions. When Major is away, the House Leader, Tony Newton, answers for him; so Blair sends his own stand-in and the occasion becomes a duel between seconds. In magnificent form yesterday, the terrifying Miss Widdecombe had been ranting statistics all afternoon. Catching sight of Prescott, she tossed in a slighting reference to the admission he once made that Labour's minimum wage would cause a "shake out" in the Labour market.

If a water bed (queen-size) were to rise up and walk, it would look, and move, like Miss Widdecombe. A woman of her build should never attempt a derisive toss of the upper-torso while shouting "shake-out!". Adjacent MPs flinched in horror as, for a moment, Miss Widdecombe's shake-out appeared an all too real possibility. Mercifully, all stayed safely gathered in.

The minister went on: it was British workers who would be "shaken" by Prescott's minimum wage, she yelled; and it was their jobs they would be "out" of.

Taking his seat, John Prescott looked up at her, leered, and blew her a cheeky little kiss. It was painful to be reminded what fun the Hull MP they used to call the Mouth of the Humber, once was. No longer. His tailors have now made him a jacket with Tory vents, and trousers with turn-ups. This we could bear if New Labour's teenage spin-doctors had not been to work on the speech as well as the deportment of this magnificent relic of the class war.

The last time Prescott appeared at Prime Minister's Questions in his leader's place, the PR pixies had made him read his questions out — so there was no danger that a piece of unscripted Prescottian prose might invade prime-time TV.

This time it was worse. They had actually fashioned a soundbite for him.

Mr Prescott's double-barrelled question, about the Government's increases in personal taxation, was designed as a setting within which this pearl was to be displayed. As he neared the end of the second stage of his inquiry, he drew himself up, paused, and, *ever*-so slightly self-consciously, bellowed "People now know" (the cameras swivelled) "that when it comes to tax" (wait for it!) "YOU CAN NEVER TRUST A TORY".

Boom-boom! His first soundbite! The man who has given us sound-chews, sound-gobbles and sound-munches galore, but never anything so compact as a bite, had finally done it. It was like junior's first shave. John Prescott's political testicles have dropped. Farewell to the politics of boyhood. Farewell to dockside rallies and rainy streets of Hull. Farewell the seafaring trades unions. Farewell workers' rights and the class struggle.

Hello to the world of AutoCue and camera angle; of powder puffs and media poofs; of buzz-words, boo-words, key phrases and — yes — soundbites. Welcome to New Labour, John!

Minister considers tests for pupils aged five

BY JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION EDITOR

THE Government is considering testing five-year-olds as they start school so that their progress can be measured more accurately, Eric Forth, the Education Minister, disclosed yesterday.

Children are already tested at seven, 11 and 14. Basic assessment at five, which has been introduced in Birmingham, would enable teachers to judge the capabilities of children entering full-time education and provide a yardstick to gauge the performance of primary schools.

Mr Forth told a conference in London that tests were being considered as part of a plan to offer pre-school places to all four-year-olds. They might be introduced in tandem with a national curriculum for pre-school education attracting state support.

The proposal received immediate support from Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, who said teachers wanted more information on what children could do when they started school. "I find a lot of interest in baseline tests for the development of 'value added' but there is quite a lot of nervousness about inappropriate tests being developed in a rush."

Testing at seven, 11 and 14 prompted a boycott by teaching unions, which has been lifted completely only this year. But David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, has already raised the possibility of extending the practice to the younger age group.

The Prime Minister's promise of a pre-school place for every four-year-old has prompted political in-fighting among groups championing alternative models of provision. At the second conference on the subject in less than a month, organised by the Conservative think-tank, the Centre for Policy Studies, Mr Forth stressed the complexity of decisions facing ministers.

He suggested that conventional teaching qualifications might not be needed in state-approved nurseries and raised a number of possible obstacles to the introduction of vouchers for pre-school provision. If there was a mismatch between the demand from parents and the supply of places, the "virtues and joys" of vouchers would disappear.

Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, added to the scepticism over vouchers at a Conservative local-elections press conference. She suggested that a bidding system for new nursery places would be preferable because this could be introduced more quickly than vouchers.

Irish force criticised for Dublin soccer riot

A series of blunders by Irish police in the run-up to the riot by English football fans in Dublin in February was highlighted yesterday by the official inquiry into the disturbance. Thomas Finlay, a former Irish Chief Justice, criticised Dublin police for turning down an offer from English police to help to identify troublemakers.

He also highlighted the Garda's failure to pass warnings about the hooligans to the Football Association of Ireland. But the former judge blamed a hardcore of English fans for orchestrating the violence, which forced the abandonment of the friendly match between England and the Republic of Ireland. Twenty people were injured and 40 arrested.

Cantona loses home

Eric Cantona, the belligerent French football star turned piscine philosopher turned community worker, suffered another setback yesterday when he lost his home. The Cantona family must leave their rented house in Boothstown, Salford, by midnight tonight after negotiations for Manchester United to buy the £80,000 house broke down.

The property's owner wants to sell up and asked his management agents to serve notice on his tenants.

Spending 'caps' hit 8 councils

The Government aims to cap the spending of ten English authorities including eight councils. The councils have 28 days to decide whether they will accept the caps announced yesterday.

They are Somerset, Devon, Gloucestershire and Shropshire County Councils; Sheffield, Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Norwich city councils and Barnsley Borough Council. Lincolnshire Police Authority and South Yorkshire Civil Defence and Fire Authority will also be capped.

Military survey

A five-year survey of every 20th century military installation in Britain was launched yesterday at the Imperial War Museum in London. The completed list will be passed to English Heritage and other preservation groups with the aim of giving the more important sites similar protection to listed buildings.

Illegal rescuers

A fleet of 19 Canadian-built ambulances has been taken off the road by the East Anglian Ambulance NHS Trust after they were found to be illegally overloaded when carrying a patient. The £40,000 Canadia TriStar vehicles have been in service for two years but are now in storage while the trust consults its lawyers.

Demi decent

A poster showing Demi Moore in a steamy embrace with Michael Douglas publicising the film *Disclosure* is not indecent, the Advertising Standards Authority has decided. The watchdog ruled that the pose showed a scene relevant to the nature and plot of the film and was not gratuitous. The poster attracted 71 complaints.

Times awards

***The Times* has won two of the prestigious silver medals awarded annually by the American Society of Newspaper Design. They were for an informational graphic of the Baltic ferry disaster by Geoffrey Sims, David Hart, Tony Garrett and Paul Bryant and *The Times* guide to the Channel tunnel by Geoffrey Sims.**

Clarke tells MPs to stop talking up tax cuts

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

KENNETH CLARKE warned Conservative MPs last night that talking up expectations of big tax cuts and increases in spending over the next two years could damage the Government's reputation for sound economic management.

The day after John Major hinted that he expected substantial cuts this November and next, an alarmed Chancellor of the Exchequer told his backbench colleagues to stop "flying kites" about taxation and to avoid stoking ambitions that could not be fulfilled. His remarks were clearly intended to kill off speculation that he was ready to consider a three-year "rolling" programme of tax cuts.

He has told colleagues that it would be "reckless" to write Budgets two or three years in advance. While Mr Clarke's aides insisted he was not criticising the Prime Minister, there is irritation in the Treasury at the way Mr Major's interview on *Panorama* on BBC Television has been interpreted as confirmation that two years of cuts are certain.

Mr Clarke told members of the Tory backbench finance committee at a private meeting that they should not think tax cuts were "in the bag" and that the Government's reputation for running the economy would be destroyed if, after years of sound management, people suddenly started talking about three years of cuts and big rises in spending. The Government had to maintain its policy of controlling public spending and judgments about how far it could go in cutting tax could only be made Budget by Budget.

He had earlier seen the officers of the committee and given them a similar warning against talking up tax hopes. John Townend, chairman of the committee, said Mr Clarke had impressed on MPs that they should not be "talking about specific tax cuts by a specific date".

Ministers clearly fear that the electoral impact of tax cuts will be discounted in advance unless they dampen excitement now. The weekend headlines about three-year rolling programmes of tax cuts and decisions to increase spending next year on education by an extra £1 billion were not only inaccurate but damaging, Mr Clarke said.

The Chancellor has been growing increasingly worried about the series of reports and interviews in which Tory backbenchers have spoken of the inevitability of tax cuts. He told them that if they kept "whooping up" suggestions of tax cuts and spending increases they would put paid to the Government's reputation for competence.

Gordon Brown, page 14

Taped replies given as evidence to MPs' hearing

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOURNALISTS from *The Sunday Times*, posing as businessmen, approached more than 20 MPs, asking if they would take on a consultancy role and ask questions in the Commons. The following responses, mostly from recorded conversations, were given to the Commons Privileges Committee.

Conservative MPs

David Tredinnick (Bosworth) Jonathan Calvert, journalist: So I'll send you the £1,000 in the post now, then. Tredinnick: Well, that is very kind of you. Calvert: You checked that it was all above board and everything, didn't you? Tredinnick: Oh yes, that's fine. Calvert: And will I be registered as you suggested before? Tredinnick: I probably will declare the interest, yes. But I don't have to be specific on that and it's confidential between the two of us.

Graham Riddick (Colne Valley) Calvert: I'll send a cheque up to your home address. Riddick: OK, that's fine. I, er, will hang on to it. I won't bank it until we've just confirmed you are happy and everything.

Bill Walker (Tayside N) Calvert: ... you wanted me to pay it to a charity, Walker: Yes, that's right, rather than to me. I don't want paying. Calvert: You are not taking any payment for this yourself. Is there any reason for that? Walker: I never do. I just decide which charity things go to. No, I don't take payment for anything I do.

Sir John Gorst (Hendon N) If you were interested in a sort of longer term relationship, public relations/public affairs advice, that would be more in my field. I'm quite prepared to ask the question and forgetting any question of a retainer or anything like that .fs!.."

Richard Tracey (Surbiton) My role in the [public affairs] company really is an advisory one and I personally don't go in for specific lobbying, you know, in the sense of nobbling ministers, but of course the company can help you in making contacts with them.

Teresa Gorman (Billericay) You must go to your local MP. Goodbye.

James Pawsey (Rugby & Kenilworth) No. In the first instance you should talk to [your local MP].

Labour MPs

Norman Hogg (Cumbernauld & Kilsyth) "Well, it is not really my field at all. I do not know who could help you with that. I just honestly don't know."

Nic Ravnsford (Greenwich): Question. He has no involvement in that? Secretary: "Not that I know of, I am afraid, no.

Peter Shore (Bethnal Green & Stepney): Secretary: Umm

Jeremy Bray (Motherwell S): Secretary: "He is interested in the management of the economy and in science and technology, but not as a consultant."

Llin Golding (Newcastle-under-Lyme): Question: I am looking for a consultant who principally has access to Parliament. Are you in that sort of line? Answer: No, I'm a Member of Parliament.

Geoffrey Robinson (Coventry NW): I am not a parliamentary consultant at all. I am sorry.

Barry Jones (Alyn & Deeside): I am afraid I won't be able to help you.

Roland Boyes (Houghton & Washington): No, I don't do that sort of thing.

Gordon Oakes (Halton): No. Members of Parliament do not deal with it in that way. I would see your local MP.

Secretaries to **John Gilbert (Dudley E)** and **Stuart Bell (Middlesbrough)** said "No".


Tredinnick and Riddick: the two MPs will be suspended from the Commons

Sunday Times takes press awards

***The Sunday Times* Insight team, which exposed the cash-for-questions affair, won Team Journalism of the Year and Exclusive of the Year in the British Press Awards last night. Journalists from the paper posed as businessmen to offer payments for parliamentary questions. The paper said Insight was the first team to receive two accolades in the 25-year history of the awards. Anatole Lieven, a *Times* correspondent in the former Soviet Union, was highly commended as Stringer of the Year, and Simon Jenkins, of *The Times* was highly commended as Columnist of the Year.**

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Clinton greets Major with assurance over relations with London

US senators link IRA arms to investment

FROM PETER RIDDELL IN WASHINGTON

AMERICAN congressional leaders have raised with John Major the possibility of linking international investment in Northern Ireland with the IRA decommissioning its arms.

President Clinton yesterday greeted the Prime Minister at the White House with the assurance that relations with Britain were "very good and strong". This was the first meeting between the two leaders since their disagreement last month over Mr Clinton's White House welcome for Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein leader.

Mr Major is interested by the idea of payments from the proposed international investment fund being dependent on the decommissioning of IRA arms. However, he is publicly cautious: the Government regards such investment and the decommissioning of arms as separate questions, and Mr Major is in any case reluctant to become involved in domestic American politics.

The proposed linkage, put forward by the Republican leadership in the Senate, has not been backed by the Clinton administration. The idea, which may involve an amendment to the legislation authorising the fund, has been mentioned to Mr Major in Washington by Senator Robert Dole, the Republican majority leader, and yesterday, at a meeting of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee by Senator Paul Sarbanes, a prominent Democrat. The proposed International Fund for Ireland will be backed by the US Government with a current estimated investment of $20 million (about £12.3 million).

During his meetings in Washington, Mr Major has been questioned about the peace process in Northern Ireland by members of the Administration and congressional leaders.


Helms: praised ally

As he began his discussions yesterday with Mr Clinton the Prime Minister said it was "very important to keep relations with America in good and fresh repair". This meant, he said, coming to America to talk. He emphasised the range of agreement with the Clinton administration on foreign policy and trade and economic issues, including Bosnia, the enlargement of Nato, relations with Russia and sanctions against Iraq. The only disagreements have been with some congressional leaders over the arms embargo on the Bosnian Government and some critical questioning over Ireland from a few congressmen.

Mr Major said after a meeting with senators yesterday that he was "unconcerned by occasional differences popping up between two such close allies". Senator Jesse Helms, the Republican chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said that Britain was "America's most reliable ally".

Mr Major also spent an hour yesterday discussing policy ideas with Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House of Representatives and prime mover behind the Republicans' radical *Contract with America* programme. Afterwards, Mr Major described the talks as "extremely interesting" but kept his distance from Mr Gingrich's controversial programme, declining to say what he had learnt. Instead, he emphasised that his own Government had "a series of ideas across the whole range for 1997 and beyond."

Earlier, Mr Gingrich had referred to close relations between the Republicans and the British Conservatives. He was much more effusive in describing Anglo-American relations than Mr Major, who has sought to describe the trip in a business-like way.

☐ Four men linked to the republican terrorist Irish National Liberation Army group were arrested in Co. Dublin yesterday. A number of guns were found. Unlike the IRA, the INLA has not called a ceasefire.

Gingrich tax deal, page 11
Diary, page 14

Mixed jail scheme ends after four years

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE prison service has halted the first attempt to mix men and women in a jail in England and Wales, in spite of praise for the project by Judge Stephen Tumim. The scheme, at Risley in Cheshire, was stopped "for evaluation purposes".

Men and women at the jail had taken part in a disco, concerts and art exhibitions and women prisoners had acted as models on the men's hairdressing course. The scheme was instigated in 1990 and, a prison service spokeswoman said, was halted "quite recently".

Risley includes separate jails for men and women, but because of the lack of facilities for women in 1990 they began to share the education centre and gym in the men's prison. In recent months men had shared the women's prison pre-release unit and there had been mixed classes in cookery, craft and computers. There had also been mixed concerts, art exhibitions and a disco, as well as men and women working together to produce the prisoners' magazine.

A report to the Home Office by Judge Tumim, the chief inspector of prisons, says: "Women prisoners had acted as models on the men's hairdressing courses while men on the industrial cleaning course had instructed the inmate cleaners in the women's prison."

He adds: "From what we observed, and from what staff and prisoners told us, it was clear that what was being developed in this area was advantageous to the growth of the regime and to the prisoners who were participating."

News of the project's demise came as Michael Howard increased prison governors' powers to extend sentences as punishment for increasing disciplinary offences. In a written reply to MPs, the Home secretary said: "These powers will act as a greater deterrent to prisoners; allow governors to punish the more serious offences properly; reduce the number of cases referred to the police and maintain confidence in the disciplinary system."



Sacked Labour pair return from unauthorised trip with wildly diverging memories

One MP's cowardice is another's foolhardiness



Clwyd: used to peril

BY JOE JOSEPH

THE two Labour frontbenchers sacked by Tony Blair yesterday decided not to go gentle into that good night of the backbenches, but to rage against the dying of the spotlight by abusing each other in a public brawl.

Ann Clwyd and Jim Cousins left on their unauthorised trip to Turkey and Iraq as friends. But yesterday she accused him of "bleating and whimpering" like a coward when the two came under fire. Ignoring Kipling's advice to "keep your head when all about you are losing theirs and blaming it on you", Mr Cousins snapped back that she was conducting "Clwyd Loony Tours" by ignoring danger.

The two MPs flew out to examine Kurdish areas of Turkey and Iraq last week without the permission of party whips and missed key votes on the Disability Discrimination Bill. On their return, both were banished from the front benches after two meetings with a furious Mr Blair.

Like those couples on Cilla Black's *Blind Date* who return from a week away with wildly diverging memories of what went on between them, Ms Clwyd and Mr Cousins then compounded the acrimony by retailing markedly different accounts of what transpired on their five days abroad together.

According to Ms Clwyd, Mr Cousins had been avoiding her and fled the country without stopping to meet their hosts. As Mr Cousins sees it, she has been making "histrionic" and inaccurate remarks to the Press about the trip.

What incensed Ms Clwyd were suggestions by Mr Cousins in newspaper articles that he had stayed on the trip to protect her in a "dangerous area". In a BBC radio interview she fumed: "He gave the impression he went to Turkey and Iraq to protect me. That is absolutely ludicrous because he spent a lot of time bleating and whimpering — in effect. I had to hold his hand. Indeed, when we came under fire and tried to get into a city where Saddam Hussain was attacking the Iraqi Kurds, he didn't want to go in. I would say he panicked under fire in Iraq."

Ms Clwyd, never knowingly tongue-tied, said she was used to the area's perils because she had been there before as refugees fled across the mountains. "I just find it incredible that he came back 12 hours early because he said that he had to get home. He rushed off without saying goodbye to people.

"He didn't see the Turkish Prime Minister or Foreign Secretary after he returned to Ankara. He just leapt on a plane via Frankfurt. Over the last two days he has avoided me. He has refused to return my calls."

A wounded Mr Cousins, interviewed on BBC Radio Newcastle, recalled events rather differently: "When firing broke out on the road in front of us I was quite clear we were not going down that road. I stopped us going any further. Someone had to take the decisions and face up to our responsibilities. I did.

"I don't know what on earth she was doing getting us in a situation in which we were 150 miles by road from the Turkish border on the frontline of an extremely nasty civil war between Kurdish war lords who had managed to kill and injure hundreds of their own people three days before we were there. There is a limit to foolhardiness and at some point common sense has to begin.

From that extreme point of Clwyd Loony Tours I headed straight for home. The reason for doing so was because my wife was extremely upset after I spoke to her by satellite radio and wanted to see me again."

With the gun still smoking in his hand, Mr Cousins then criticised press releases from the Clwyd camp that were sent out bearing his name: "In the course of one histrionic press release we were told that 'the shelling flashed red throughout the sky'. It's only a small point but they don't flash red, they flash blue. It is important to me to get that kind of thing right."

Still smarting from his colleague's accusations of cowardice, he said: "I took the decision to go back. If she chooses to call that bleating and whimpering then I think she has a very funny idea of what are sensible decisions and what are not."



Cousins: wife was upset

Parents told after man discovers body near motorway outside Bristol

Remains in grave may be missing east London boy

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE believe that they have found the body of Daniel Handley, the nine-year-old missing from east London since October, in a shallow grave near motorway junctions outside Bristol.

Yesterday both Avon and Somerset police and Scotland Yard said the remains would take up to ten days to identify, but both Daniel's mother and father, who are separated, have been told of the discovery. Police sources say items of clothing found near the body indicate that it could be Daniel.

The remains were discovered last week when a man walking his dog on waste ground at Winterbourne, Avon, uncovered a skull. The spot is a few miles south of where junction 20 of the M4 meets junction 15 of the M5.

As police began to search the area they discovered bones that had been buried in a shallow grave which was probably disturbed by heavy rain. Examination suggests that the child has been buried for less than two years. A pathologist has confirmed that the remains are those of a child aged between nine and 12 but the sex is not known. Avon and Somerset police have no record of a missing child in that age group, and sent details to other forces, including Scotland Yard. Then Avon and Somerset contacted the incident room opened last year in east London when Daniel, who lived in Beckton with his mother Maxine Handley, 37, and her boyfriend Alexander Joseph, 21, vanished after leaving a friend's home on his BMX bicycle.

More than 100 police were drafted in to search east London last year after Daniel disappeared. The boy was described as street-wise by detectives, who also said he was trusting and would sometimes get lifts home from strangers after earning money helping people with their shopping at a local superstore.

It later emerged that someone tried to snatch a child at the Ellen Wilkinson Primary School, a quarter of a mile from where Daniel lived, the week before he disappeared. Daniel attended a different school.

Witnesses also told police they had seen a boy on a bicycle talking to two men in a silver car on the night that Daniel vanished. One was in his 20s and the other in his 40s.

Police also examined the possibility that the boy might have run away from home after he complained to a friend that he was unhappy there and asked to stay at his house. It was thought he might have been trying to return to his real father, who lives in Dagenham, east London.

Daniel's bike was discovered 200 yards from his home hours after he was reported missing. Detectives dug up the garden of the house where he lived and that of another house in Beckton, where Mrs Handley had lived with her estranged husband David, 39.

Mrs Handley said at the time of his disappearance: "You never know what it's like until it happens to you. You cannot imagine the pain you go through when your child goes missing."

Mrs Handley and her boyfriend are due to appear before magistrates in east London later this month on child sex charges.



David Handley, Daniel's father, with a photograph of his missing son, right

Man held after PC shot in stomach

BY STEWART TENDLER

A POLICE officer was recovering in hospital yesterday after being shot in the stomach when he stopped a car on a west London street. PC Stephen Collins, 27, a probationary officer who has been in the force for 15 months, underwent surgery at Central Middlesex Hospital.

Yesterday, as detectives questioned a 17-year-old and continued to search for a second suspect linked to the shooting, PC Collins, who comes from Surrey and is based at Acton, was described as "comfortable" by hospital staff.

His shooting will intensify the pressure for a decision from chief constables and the Home Secretary on trials of CS gas sprays to protect officers against gunmen. A decision is expected soon once chief constables have reported to the Home Office on the cost of training. There have also been calls from police representatives for greater use of body armour.

Yesterday Scotland Yard said the incident began when PC Collins and a 23-year-old woman officer stopped two males in a Ford Escort that was being driven erratically in north Acton. As they began to question the driver, the passenger sitting next to him produced a gun and fired several shots.

Driver 'aimed car at teenagers'

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

A GIRL severely injured by a hit-and-run driver may have been deliberately mown down as she walked home with a friend. Police said yesterday that the motorist switched his headlights to full beam as he approached and then drove on to the pavement.

Gemma Fry, 16, whose leg and elbow were shattered, and Shelley Wainner, 18, were said to be lucky to be alive.

The incident happened late on Monday night in the centre of Bletchley, Buckinghamshire. The teenagers were found by a police patrol. Gemma, who underwent surgery yesterday, was stable at Milton Keynes General Hospital. Shelley was recovering at home from shock and severe bruising.

They had been walking home after taking a friend to the bus station. Shelley, a student, said yesterday: "We saw the headlights of a car coming towards us. The driver switched his lights on to full beam which blinded us a little and then I realised that he had driven on to the pavement and was heading straight for us.

"I knew he was going to hit us and I tried to jump out of the way. Gemma was hit full on. The car hit the back of my legs and sent me flying." They had never seen the car before.

Police said the car was a red or maroon Vauxhall Nova or Corsa, driven by a white man with long, dark hair. Sergeant Rob Storrar said: "We are looking at the possibility that this was deliberate. The girls have intimated that, in their minds, it was."



Gemma Fry: in hospital

'Hassled' EastEnder says he was victim of club attack



Owen: reduced to tears by his producer's praise

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE actor who plays Ricky Butcher in the BBC soap, *EastEnders*, told a court yesterday that he had been the victim of an unprovoked attack in a nightclub — one of the "hassles" of being a well-known television personality.

Sid Owen, who said he was punched in the nose and mouth by Mark Falshaw, an estate agent, denies wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. The prosecution at Snaresbrook Crown Court alleges he smashed a beer glass on Mr Falshaw's head at the Epping Forest Country Club in Essex. On the second day of his trial, Mr Owen, 23, from Wanstead, east London, who also denies an alternative charge of unlawful wounding, said he walked away from physical violence "because my work does not tolerate that".

He agreed with his counsel, Oliver Blunt QC, that being in the public eye all the time had advantages and disadvantages. He told the court: "I knew before I went into it that it was a popular show so I was going to get hassles. People remark on my character. I don't play the most intelligent character in the world so I get people calling me 'thick Rick' and things like that. I get a lot of abuse. It is just something I have to cope with."

He said he had known Mr Falshaw for some years and regarded him as a friend and an acquaintance, although he could become "quite rowdy". He saw Mr Falshaw with a women called Eleanor Moulton at the club. He went up to them and started a "friendly chit-chat". He said Mr Falshaw seemed very drunk.

The mood changed and Mr Falshaw began calling him names making obscene hand gestures. "I said, 'You're pissed', and stepped back."

Mr Owen said Mr Falshaw immediately "came straight for me and punched me straight in the mouth, on the top of my lip and on the nose". He then tried to head-butt him. In an effort to protect himself the actor put his hands in front of his face, still holding his glass, which fell to the floor.

Mr Owen was later reduced to tears when Corinne Hollingworth, the producer of *EastEnders*, told the court that Mr Owen was "very unassuming, a quiet, gentle and kind boy, who has not taken to his fame very easily".

Judge Andrew Brooks, apparently unaware of Mr Owen's distress in the dock, then provoked laughter when he asked Miss Hollingworth: "What is Sharon's fate?" He was referring to the unfaithful and estranged wife of the programme's hard man, Grant Mitchell. The producer responded: "Do I really have to answer that?"

The case continues.

British Psychological Society: pet theory and the waking nightmare of operations

Animals are best friends for ambitious humans

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

HIGHLY competitive people are more likely to keep pets than those who are less ambitious and more laid-back, psychologists have found. For those who live life in the fast lane and are seeking recognition, a pet has one great advantage over a human companion — it doesn't answer back.

June McNicholas and Glyn Collis, psychologists at the University of Warwick, told the British Psychological Society conference that those which they classified as type-A personalities found pets easier to handle than people.

Type-A people are competitive and ambitious. They strive to achieve their goals and fear failure. They are distinguished from the more relaxed type Bs because they are more prone to heart disease and other stress-related illnesses.

June McNicholas said typical type-A people were poor at confiding in others, showing affection, or making friends. With a pet they could display affection. "A dog would never say to you 'Pull yourself together'," she said.

In a study conducted in Coventry among 540, they discovered that more type-A personalities had pets. Miss McNicholas said: "Type As don't like to admit to weakness. Offloading your problems on to an animal that isn't going to judge you may be beneficial."

Pets offer a valuable cushion against the unreliability of human support. Miss McNicholas said: "The difficulties with human relationships is that they are not dependable. My partner may be having a bad day. That won't happen with a pet. They are not going to judge you or say 'Enough is enough, I'm leaving'."

Miss McNicholas, who owns six Dobermans, a cat, three ferrets and four giant snails, said pet owners had busier social lives and were better at dealing with crises. "People talk to you when you have a pet. Introductions made by pets have led to marriage."

She said further studies were needed to examine whether type-A people chose exotic breeds in order to make a social impression. "That is a whole untapped area," she said.

Miss McNicholas said people followed fashions in pets as they did in cars or clothes. "Fifteen years ago it was seen as macho to have a German shepherd. Then it switched to dobermans, then to rottweilers and pit-bull terriers. "It's not the dog, it's what people want to project through the dog. If you want a vicious dog, you make it vicious. They don't come ready made."

☐ John Major does not own a dog, according to a Downing Street spokesman, who said: "As far as I know Mr Major has never owned an animal during his adult life."

Half of patients may be awake during surgery

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

HALF of all surgery patients may be awake during their operation even though they have no memory of it, a psychologist claimed yesterday.

He said that levels of wakefulness under anaesthetics varied and that some patients would be able to communicate with the surgeons were they not also given muscle relaxant drugs to paralyse the body to stop it from twitching during delicate surgery.

Studies at Royal Hull Hospitals NHS Trust, in which a tourniquet was applied to patients' forearms to prevent the paralysing drugs reaching the hand, showed that anaesthetised patients could answer yes or no questions about how they felt by opening or closing their fingers.

Dr Michael Wang, clinical director of the Department of Psychology at Hull University, who conducted the research with Dr Ian Russell, a consultant anaesthetist, said: "Half of the patients on every operating list show evidence of wakefulness. If you tell them to squeeze their hand they will."

Dr Wang told the annual conference of the British Psychological Society at the University of Warwick that few patients remembered the experience or felt pain but that there were anecdotal reports of patients suffering nightmares after operations. "It is possible to be in a state where you experience things moment to moment but don't remember them," he said.

"We don't know the psychological consequences. There may be millions of people suffering the after-effects of surgery. It is one of the big open questions medics choose to ignore. The problem is, people think you are either asleep or awake when there is actually a continuum."

Dr Wang warned that patients should not be put off surgery by the findings but urged anaesthetists to take more care to measure awareness during surgery. He called for wider use of the method of isolating the forearm to detect levels of awareness, especially in obstetrics and gynaecology operations, in which lower doses of anaesthetics are used.

Estimates by the Association of Anaesthetists suggest that 1 per cent of surgical patients remember events during operations of which they should not have been aware. "Even 1 per cent is a significant number given the millions of operations carried out each year. The forearm technique is a more sensitive way of picking up levels of consciousness," Dr Wang said.

☐ Mothers are being sent home from hospital too soon after giving birth, a development psychologist at the University of East London claims. Dr Anne Woollett said that 40 years ago women stayed in hospital for an average of 13 days. "No woman wants to go back to that, but the balance may have swung too far," she said.

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



Men, and supermen

SUMMER '95: THE 44-PAGE FASHION GUIDE FOR MEN IN THE MAGAZINE

FOUR WEDDINGS TO WIN — INCLUDING A CARIBBEAN HONEYMOON IN WEEKEND

WHATEVER IT TAKES.

Good morning. Want to be here tomorrow?

Here's a little something we've learnt. Success is not the result of spontaneous combustion.

You must set yourself on fire.

If your competition does 50 push-ups, you do 51. If they go the extra mile, you go the extra 10. If they are fast, be faster. If they are smart, be brilliant. If they have the bigger hammer, you have the sharper nail.

Don't solve problems, anticipate them. Don't promise results, get them. Treat every challenge as an opportunity in work clothes.

Know that well done is better than well said. That it is not just the hours you put in, but what you put into the hours.

Let others dream of worthy accomplishments. That's okay. You stay awake and do them. Believe you can't be beaten and you won't. Believe that there is plenty of room at the top, but not enough to sit down.

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Panorama challenge

How the BBC fell into a trap over Major interview

BY ANDREW PIERCE

FEW members of the *Panorama* team shared the enthusiasm of Tony Hall, the BBC's managing director of news and current affairs, for the deal he struck to secure the Prime Minister's first appearance on the programme since the general election.

The ground had been prepared in a series of telephone calls between Mr Hall and Chris Meyer, the Downing Street press secretary. Over lunch in a Westminster restaurant three weeks ago the long-standing invitation was renewed. Within days Mr Meyer telephoned Mr Hall with a convenient date, April 3 — only three days before the Scottish local elections.

Nobody at the *Panorama* studio at White City, west London, was under any illusion why Mr Major had finally accepted the invitation. The Prime Minister was in deep trouble at the polls, and like Mrs Thatcher during the Westland crisis, decided to take up a *Panorama* invitation as part of a media onslaught.

Mr Hall, acutely aware of the sensitive timing of the programme in the aftermath of criticism of the BBC as "Blair's Broadcasting Corporation" by Jonathan Aitken,



Hall: enthusiastic

the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, took personal responsibility for handling the Prime Minister's acceptance.

BBC Scotland reacted swiftly when the decision became known in the week beginning March 19. Ken Cargill, Mr Hall's opposite number, warned of a political backlash and a likely court challenge. Mr Cargill's objections were carefully considered in meetings at Broadcasting House between Mr Hall, David Jordan, the BBC's political adviser, and Richard Ayre, the controller of editorial policy.

Nick Robinson, the deputy editor of *Panorama*, sounded out colleagues and then penned the leaked memorandum spelling out in graphic detail the dangers of proceeding with the interview.

Mr Robinson warned that the BBC had to "have the line right" when the inevitable objections from the other political parties came in. The memorandum, written on Thursday, March 23, was leaked to *The Times* by a disillusioned BBC employee on the following Wednesday.

The memorandum had gone to Tim Gardam, the head of weekly programmes, Steve Hewlett, editor of *Panorama*, Mr Hall and Mr Jordan, but 30 people work on the programme and the memo found its way into *The Times* office in the House of Commons the following week. It was only when the story was leaked that John Birt, the BBC's Director-General, became involved.

The memorandum, coupled with the atmosphere of suspicion created by Mr Aitken's offensive — which had been backed by the Prime Minister — produced a "combination of accidents", according to one BBC executive, which turned what would have been a routine 24-hour political row into a crisis. "It was a gift for Labour and the SNP," said one BBC official.

Alastair Campbell, Tony Blair's press secretary, was determined to flex his muscles. "He wanted to let it be known that it's not only the Tories who can get tough with the BBC," one BBC official said.

As the day of the court case drew nearer, Labour, buoyed by the advice of some of its Scottish frontbenchers with legal backgrounds, scented victory. BBC Scotland was equally alive to the danger. However, the views of Mr Hall and Mr Ayre prevailed. With local elections not being held in England and Wales until May 4 they argued strongly that it militated against the public interest for the programme to be denied an interview with the Prime Minister for six weeks.

They also feared that to rescind the invitation to Mr Major would provoke a furore among Tories. Mr Hall believed, with the backing of Mr Birt, that the courts would not challenge the BBC's right to choose who to put on its programmes.

BBC Scotland was not so sure. One of the people who brought the court action, Pat Chalmers, a Liberal Democrat candidate in the elections, is a former BBC controller in Scotland. He is no friend of Mr Birt's. But such was the confidence in London that the BBC would win that no alternative was scheduled for the *Panorama* slot until minutes before transmission. "We were stunned when we lost and we are still stunned now," said the executive. "We got this one badly wrong."

☐ The Conservatives may fail to win any seats in the Scottish local elections, some political observers believe. Tory canvassers report a 50 per cent drop in positive returns for East Renfrewshire, the only one of the 29 new single-tier local authorities the party was expected to control.

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Full trial only way to reverse judges' ruling

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE BBC is expected to seek a definitive legal ruling to clarify what it called the dangerous precedent set by the halting of Monday's *Panorama* interview with the Prime Minister.

Lawyers predicted yesterday that the injunction granted by Scottish judges would open the floodgates to legal actions by individuals or political parties seeking to influence coverage.

The BBC having been refused leave to go to the House of Lords, the only avenue open for the corporation is to have the issues judged at a full trial, which will not take place until after Thursday's Scottish local elections. The original timing of the programme had been central to the issue.

One lawyer said: "This decision is astonishing. The BBC has never before been successfully judicially reviewed by the courts. The BBC has a duty to be impartial under its charter and licence; but this duty is owed to the Home Secretary and the Government, not to individuals or political parties." The corporation is not under a statutory duty to be impartial.

The decision to grant an injunction by Lord Abernethy, later upheld by three Appeal Court judges, creates a new duty to be impartial which might be invoked by any individual, the lawyer added. He said that it was questionable whether the opposition parties had any basis for their claim. "Every time a politician



Beloff: saw legal basis

is unhappy with coverage, he will go off to the courts."

But Michael Beloff, QC, said he saw the legal basis of the judges' decision. "Those seeking an interim injunction would only have to establish an arguable case and persuade the judges on the test of the balance of convenience," he said. If an election was imminent, and they could argue that the interview was not dissimilar in impact to a party political broadcast, they would have an arguable case for its postponement.

Lord Hope said the three judges were not impressed by the BBC's argument that it was anxious to broadcast the programme quickly, before it lost topicality. "An important point of law" had been raised which could not be definitively decided at this stage. The process could not be completed in time for the programme to be shown before the poll.

Child B doctor pursues experimental cure

BY RICHARD DUCE

THE ten-year-old girl known as Child B, who was refused leukaemia treatment by her health authority, is to undergo an experimental transfusion technique after her doctor yesterday ruled out a second debilitating bone marrow transplant.

The girl is expected to go home this weekend before returning to the private London Clinic for a second course of chemotherapy followed by an injection of healthy blood cells from her nine-year-old sister.

The girl's first course of chemotherapy has destroyed half the leukaemia cells. However, Dr Peter Gravett, her haematologist, said yesterday that she still had only a 10 per cent chance of a full recovery. Her treatment began after an anonymous donor provided the £75,000 which Cambridgeshire Health Authority refused to pay because it gave the child little chance of survival.

Dr Gravett accepted that she was in effect a guinea-pig for donor lymphocyte infusion, the experimental treatment for acute myeloid leukaemia. "It is possible to justify that description but unless we are prepared to use promising technology on patients who have no other option we would never be able to develop new treatments," he said.

The treatment has been used in Britain and America over the past three years but because it is so new there are no comprehensive figures to determine its success rate. Child B's younger sister, who donated bone marrow for the first unsuccessful transplant, would probably donate T-cells over Easter. These would be frozen and later injected into Child B.

Dr Gravett said the girl was surprisingly well and had been playing in nearby Regent's Park, baking cakes and coping with work sent from school. She had lost her hair but was maintaining her weight.

"My assessment has not changed much since the initial phase," he said. "There is still a 10 per cent chance of a successful outcome, but seeing how well she is at the moment we can give her a reasonable quality of life at least for several months."

Dr Gravett thought she might be able to return to school in three months' time after 30 hours of intensive chemotherapy after Easter. The injection therapy could eventually be administered on an out-patient basis.

"A second bone marrow transplant would not be appropriate. Under the new technique we hope to augment the affect of chemotherapy and get rid of the last vestiges of leukaemia." He said the experimental treatment was intended to get the immune system to recognise leukaemia cells and attack them. "These injections are likely to be given for three to four months before we achieve the affect we are looking for."

Dr Gravett said he was aware of seven cases in Europe where the transfusion treatment had been used. Two had gone into complete remission, two had partial remission and in the others there had been no response.

Professor John Goldman, of the Hammersmith hospital in west London, who pioneered the donor injection treatment, said that once the therapy started there was a 30 to 50 per cent chance of the girl recovering. "I feel giving up a month ago on this child would have been wrong," he said.

In a statement, Cambridgeshire Health Authority said: "We are delighted to hear that Child B is well at present. Our decision not to support such treatment was based on consistent clinical advice that it was ineffective and inappropriate. Our view remains the same after further consultation with our clinical advisers."

SIMON RUNTING



Gravett: accepted that his patient was in effect a guinea-pig



Mormons put down roots in Britain for 'day of adversity'

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Mormon church will announce today the purchase of more than 5,000 acres of land in Lincolnshire, Norfolk and Suffolk that brings its holdings of British farmland to more than 10,000 acres. This time last year the total was 300 acres.

The Mormons, officially the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, are based in Utah and are building up their British land base in case of "adversity", according to the church's president, Gordon Hinckley.

Today's agreement to buy land from the Kleinwort Benson Farmland Trust for an undisclosed price takes in 1,385 acres at Sleaford, Lincolnshire, 1,492 acres at Wiggenhall, Norfolk, and 2,282 acres at Saxmundham, Suffolk. Last August the Mormons bought 4,600 acres in the Cambridge area from the BBC's Ariel Farms. The church has owned a 300-acre dairy farm in the Midlands since 1980.

The Mormons, who have 170,000 members in 40 regional centres or "stakes" in this country and nine million members in 150 countries worldwide, own many thousands of acres in different countries, including a 250,000-acre ranch in Florida. The farms are part of the expanding church welfare programme, run from headquarters in Salt Lake City.

Mr Hinckley said the church had "fostered a doctrine of self-reliance and preparedness against a day of adversity". He said: "We're not predicting that such a day will come but we do believe in preparedness. We think it's a good policy for individuals and families, and we think it's a good policy for the church."

He said food was "a necessity for all of humankind, and food comes from the earth". The farms stood as "a possible hedge against a day of adversity". He went on: "We have felt that good farms, over a long period, represent a safe investment where the assets of the church may be preserved and enhanced, while at the same time they are available as an agricultural resource to feed people, should there come a time of need."

The farms produce income for the church and contribute to humanitarian aid for disaster areas such as Rwanda and Bosnia.

The Mormon church was founded in New York in 1830 by Joseph Smith after he claimed to have discovered a text, printed on golden plates, buried on his parents' farm. His followers were driven westwards and settled in Utah in about 1847. The oldest continuous branch of the church is in Preston, Lancashire.

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Universe may be double known size

Scientists find hundreds of 'overlooked' galaxies

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

THE universe may contain twice as many galaxies as astronomers suspected, according to a new survey of the sky. The galaxies have been overlooked until now because they are faint

Their discovery eases astronomers' anxiety about "missing mass", the fact that the universe seems to contain less material than is needed to explain its behaviour.

The results of the survey were reported yesterday to the National Astronomy Meeting in Cardiff by Professor Christopher Impey of the Steward Observatory of the University of Arizona. Working with American and British colleagues he has scanned photographic plates taken with the UK Schmidt Telescope at Siding Spring in Australia, using an automatic plate-measuring machine at Cambridge.

The search concentrated on galaxies of low brightness and showed an unexpectedly large number in the local universe. "Previously overlooked galaxies may contribute as much material as the sum of all galaxies listed," Professor Impey told the meeting. "The universe is awash with dim galaxies."



Known galaxies fail to account for all mass

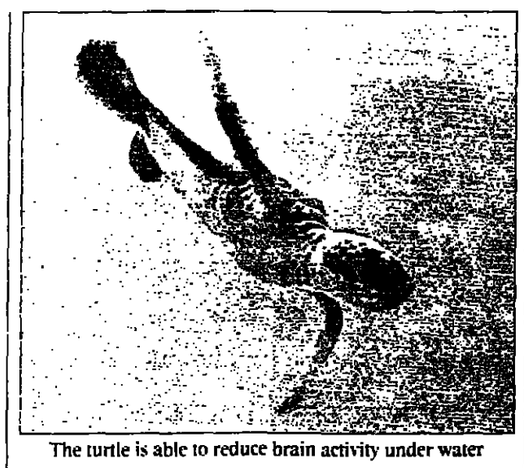
In a strip of sky centred on the celestial equator, the team, which included Dr Michael Irwin of the Royal Greenwich Observatory in Cambridge, found 600 uncatalogued galaxies at a distance typically 200 to 400 million light years from our solar system.

"It is very easy to hide large numbers of galaxies under the veil of the overall brightness of the night sky," Professor Impey said. "Astronomers count the galaxies that are most easy to see. It's as simple as that."

The newly discovered galaxies can help to answer the problem of missing mass. Several lines of argument lead astronomers to believe that the universe must contain about ten times as much mass as we can see.

Some have suggested that black holes or brown dwarfs (low-wattage stars) might make up the difference, although recent surveys have cast doubt on this idea.

Professor Impey believes that much of the shortfall in mass may be made up of galaxies with a low surface brightness of the type that his survey has revealed. The team estimates that there are between 30 and 100 per cent more galaxies in a given volume of space than had previously been assumed.



The turtle is able to reduce brain activity under water

Turtle provides clue to stroke treatment

THE ability of turtles to stay underwater for hours without breathing could bring hope to stroke patients (Nigel Hawkes writes).

Scientists have discovered how turtles reduce brain activity so that their brain is not damaged by a lack of oxygen during dives. Now the same effect is being exploited in a range of drugs to be given to people immediately after they have had a stroke.

In a stroke, the blood supply to the brain is interrupted, causing a shortage of oxygen, an overload of sodium and calcium in part of the brain, and cell death.

Dr Michael Spedding, a neuroscientist working in Paris, told a meeting of the Biochemical Society at Leicester University yesterday that the turtle blocks its sodium channels to survive immersion. "This mechanism has also been found in the human brain, to a limited extent," he said. Drug companies are now racing to produce drugs that inhibit sodium and calcium.

Boom in drug abuse ignores borders of class and education

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

MORE than six million people in England and Wales have taken illegal drugs with rapid increases in "pick and mix" drug use by young people since the mid-1980s, according to a study published yesterday.

The study discovered that, by the time it was carried out in 1991, four million people aged 16-59 had used cannabis, 900,000 had taken LSD, a million amphetamines and 450,000 Ecstasy. The report suggests that the numbers are only minimum estimates of the real extent of drug-taking.

The arrest of Tom Parker Bowles, 20, an old Etonian and an Oxford undergraduate, proves that drug-taking among people aged 16-29 is almost totally unrelated to a young person's educational or social background. Mr Parker Bowles, son of Camilla Parker Bowles and a godson of the Prince of Wales, has been cautioned by police after being arrested for carrying cannabis and Ecstasy tablets. He was detained after leaving a disco in Greenwich, south-east London, on Sunday morning. A spokesman for Worcester College said yesterday that it would be taking no action. David King, the bursar, said it was not a college matter.

The report was based on the 1992 British Crime Survey and carried out by the Home Office research and planning unit. It says that the increase in the use of cannabis and other drugs among 16 to 29-year-olds since the mid-1980s may be because youngsters are adopting a "pick and mix" attitude to the recreational use of substances.

One million people aged 16-29 had used cannabis in 1991, 400,000 had taken amphetamines, 300,000 Ecstasy and 300,000 LSD. "Cannabis was by far the drug most commonly used — over one in ten of the total sample — and almost one in four of the 16 to 29-year-olds said they had done so," the report said. It added that, compared with the British Crime Study of 1982, more than twice as many people had used cannabis at some time. The greatest increase in use had been among 16 to 29-year-olds and it was relatively greater among women than men. Thirty one per cent of 16 to 29-year-olds who had completed their education at 17 or older had taken drugs, compared with 25 per cent of those whose education ended at 16.

A third of white and Afro-Caribbean respondents said they had taken drugs compared with only 10 per cent of Asians, but there was little difference between the proportion of whites and Afro-Caribbeans who used cannabis, Ecstasy or cocaine. Whites were more likely to have taken amphetamines, LSD or magic mushrooms.

The study was based on an analysis of 6,406 people who answered questions on drugs.



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MEDICAL BRIEFING

How Ecstasy can make dancing a real party killer

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

THE nightclub Tom Parker Bowles was leaving when he was arrested and cautioned by police for possession of cannabis and Ecstasy is not far from the Guy's Hospital poisons unit, based at New Cross Hospital, southeast London. Dr John Henry, the consultant physician in charge of the unit and an acknowledged expert on Ecstasy, would also caution against its use, but on medical rather than legal grounds.

Ecstasy has the reputation of being safe. It is not. Ecstasy is an amphetamine, methylenedioxymephamphetamine, which is not only chemically related to such commonly abused drugs as dexedrine, purple hearts and speed, but also to the hallucinatory drug mescaline. It generates a sense of well-being, with tiredness, shyness and insecurity lessened and hunger and loneliness forgotten, without causing complete loss of contact with reality.

It is usually said that the danger with Ecstasy is that those who take it can have an idiosyncratic response to it — medical jargon meaning that disaster might strike regardless of the size of the dose, the number of times it has been taken, or any other circumstances.

Dr Henry does not entirely accept this view. While he agrees that small doses can cause serious harm, generally he feels that "the more providence is tempted, the more likely the user is to suffer".

Hyperthermia, or severe heat-stroke, is the commonest side-effect. It is impossible to predict who is most at risk, but any user who dances energetically in a hot crowd could collapse or die. Dr Henry says: "It's no different from deaths during military training. A platoon marches 12 miles in full kit on a hot, sticky day, usually without misadventure. Then on one occasion a soldier collapses dead, the other 29 survive unscathed. Nobody knows why that particular recruit reacted badly on that particular occasion."

The high body temperature may cause strokes, blood-clotting abnormalities or kidney failure. Dr Henry says those who take Ecstasy regularly may become depressed, paranoid or suffer panic attacks.

Parents should be suspicious of the all-night raver, particularly if he has recently been losing weight. They should be doubly suspicious if a raver who has had a heavy night remains awake the next day but in a zombie-like state, and constantly needs to quench his thirst with soft drinks or lager.

Acute intoxication with Ecstasy results in agitation, dilated pupils, sweating and a clenched jaw. The ravers' own cure is to drink large quantities of water to combat the thirst induced by the drug.

Getting the dose of water just right is more difficult than they suppose. Some have drunk so much that they have given themselves brain damage by overloading their tissues with water.



Tom Parker Bowles

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Ian Francis enjoys his breakfast and settles his Visa bill.

11:15



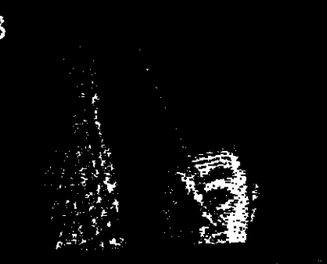
Jake O'Sullivan teases his mother as she asks about her mortgage.

13:28



Andrea Austin fixes a loan for a new car while waiting for a tow.

20:18



Klinsmann scores. Andy Smith celebrates and raises his overdraft.

23:30



Bob Sparks wakes with a start and calls to pay his gas bill.

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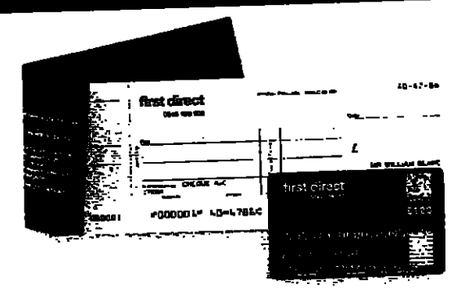
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Youngest peer steps into the limelight

BY ALICE THOMSON

THE youngest peer in the House of Lords will make his debut in the chamber today.

The 24-year-old Earl of Hardwicke will deliver his maiden speech on the film industry, becoming one of the youngest members of either House to speak since Pitt the Younger. Lord Hardwicke — Joe, to his family — has had 21 years to prepare what he will say. At three, on the death of his grandfather, he became the youngest senior peer this century and was told about it over a bowl of spaghetti as he watched *Babar goes to America*.

His mother took him to live in the West Indies when he was five. He owns a half-share in a restaurant there and spends his time organising raves, travelling and working in public relations. "We don't have a country pile or anything. The fifth Earl squandered everything. I just bought a flat in Chelsea," he said yesterday.

But he believes passionately in the peerage and thinks it is vital that younger peers challenge the preconception that the House of Lords is the last resting place of old landowners and retired politicians.

He entered the House soon after his 21st birthday and has decided the time has come to speak up. "In the art funding debate the older Lords tend to speak about opera, classical music and ballet. As a younger person I think film is a good place for me to specialise. My mother was an actress before she died."

His passions include the films of Martin Scorsese and Quentin Tarantino and he is convinced that the British film industry could rival Hollywood if only the Government would give tax incentives.

Being a peer, he says, can be irritating. "I had real problems getting car insurance and when it was Maastricht I kept getting these whips' letters telling me to vote. But it is a wonderful place to take friends to lunch — although it should have a snooker table — and you always end up sitting next to someone interesting, like Lord Lawson."

☐ The Commons National Heritage Committee called yesterday for tax incentives to encourage international producers and directors to make films in Britain. It also suggested changes to allow increased investment in film-making by Channel 4.

MICHAEL POWELL



Lord Hardwicke, who will urge tax breaks for the film industry in his maiden speech in the Lords today

County Hall delay may cost taxpayer millions of pounds

BY NIGEL WILLIAMSON, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

THE redevelopment of the disbanded Greater London Council's former headquarters could take another 20 years, the Japanese owners said yesterday as the Government was heavily criticised over the sale of the site. The delay could cost the taxpayer millions of pounds.

Shirayama Shokusan Ltd also said that it still had not reached a decision on the future use of County Hall, which faces the Palace of Westminster across the Thames and is one of London's prime pieces of real estate.

A report from the National Audit Office reveals that:

☐ Final payments on the sale are unlikely to be made before 2012

☐ Michael Howard, as Environment Secretary, failed to use his powers under the 1985 Local Government Act to intervene when Shirayama Shokusan used its position as the only remaining bidder to negotiate a lower price

☐ The financial standing of Shirayama was never verified before the sale; company accounts were not examined and little supporting material was obtained from financial institutions

☐ The London Residuary Body, set up by the Government to dispose of County Hall, failed to follow Treasury rules by not updating the valuation of the site during negotiations

☐ Contrary to Treasury guidance, the residuary body sold the building by private treaty rather than by auction or competitive tender.

Labour MPs last night described the sale as a scandal and demanded that Mr Howard explain why he had refused to prevent the price being dropped.

The building, the seat of London government since the First World War, was sold to Shirayama in 1993. It had become redundant in 1986 after the abolition of the Greater London Council.

After a series of planning inquiries and a number of grandiose schemes backed by various Labour politicians and visionaries to turn the building into a "people's palace", by 1992 County Hall's future lay between two bidders: the little known Japanese company and the London School of Economics.

After the LSE bid was rejected, a price of £60 million was agreed with Shirayama in March 1992. But a year later, six months before the contract was due for completion, Shirayama sought to reduce the price to £42 million. In a compromise, the LRB agreed to a reduction to £50 million, plus a deferred payment of £10 million payable over a period up to 2012.

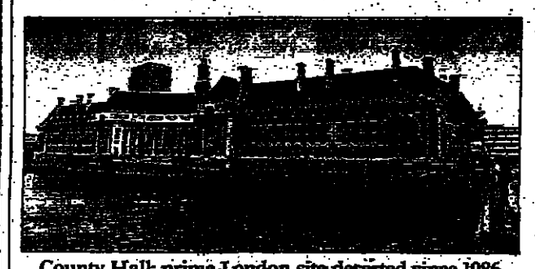
No interest is payable on the deferred sum, which was to be paid back in annual instalments from 1997 out of profits from the development. The owners now admit there will be no such profits over the envisaged period and there is little chance of the deferred payments being recovered until well into the next century.

Planning permission has been granted for various projects including a hotel, Europe's largest aquarium and various leisure and education facilities, all of which are now back in the melting pot.

In a statement to the NAO, Shirayama says that it "needs to weigh the various possible uses of the building and decide which options are best suited to the building for all generations of the public and also to see whether these are commercially viable". The company plans to make a decision by October 1995.

Alan Milburn, the Labour MP who first referred the sale to the NAO, said last night: "The report confirms that one of London's key sites has been treated in a totally cavalier fashion. Michael Howard's refusal to intervene to prevent a reduction in the sale price meant that Shirayama had London taxpayers over a barrel".

He added: "It is outrageous that the disposal of a prime national site like County Hall should have been subject to a secret agreement between an unaccountable quango and an overseas property company."



County Hall: prime London site deserted since 1986

Monument to one failed ambition after another

BY JOE JOSEPH

NO DOUBT in a room deep within County Hall, Ken Livingstone's in-tray from his glory days as head of the Greater London Council still brims with unfulfilled dreams to erect a peace pagoda by the Cenotaph, to rename the Blackwall Tunnel, or to pave London with coir matting.

But you need only read the index-finger daub in a dusty window saying "*Arsenal Football Club is the best*" to see just how long the place has been asleep.

County Hall was deserted after Margaret Thatcher disbanded the GLC and is still disused by its new Japanese owners — what exactly goes on there now? "Nothing," grunts a green-jacketed security guard, one of the few signs of life left in the enormous Thames-side mansion. "It's a building site."

Sand and cement are being shovelled around for maintenance work that will prevent the building crumbling before its fate as an hotel, or a university campus, a multi-multiplex cinema, a gigantic aquarium, or whatever, is decided.

On a windless day yesterday even the Union flag, the blue European Union flag, and the red-on-white Japanese flag of the new owners hung lifelessly from the white flagpole, as if they had lost the spirit to flap.

The façade's mosaic of windows has been glazed with a grimy film of neglect, like cataracts blotting out one of the best views in London, certainly the best view across the Thames to the Palace of Westminster and the Abbey beyond.

In one of the downstairs function rooms there is a big flip chart showing a felt-tip drawing of County Hall, with the Thames flecked with passing barges and tourist trampers — the work either of a bored builder doing his art homework or one of the many plans sketched out by the Japanese millionaire Takashi Shirayama.

It was in a nearby lounge that a karaoke bar was set up for Mr Shirayama's consultants, brought in to devise ways of turning County Hall into an hotel. The discovery last year that not only was County Hall now home to a karaoke bar but that a oak throne, carved in the 19th century and used by successive chairmen of the London County Council, had become a bar stool sent the *ancien regime* into a fury.

"It's outrageous," screamed Tony Banks, the former GLC chairman-turned-Labour MP. "They didn't buy the furniture as well. That's a piece of local government history which shouldn't be there. And it certainly shouldn't be used for karaoke parties by a bunch of Japanese hoteliers."

The London *Evening Standard* hires the inner courtyard to park a horse-drawn Victorian carriage emblazoned with advertising hoardings, but that is about the only sign of commercial activity left.

So what became of those plans to turn County Hall into a luxury hotel — to be run by Richard Branson, wasn't it? — alongside a leisure and cultural centre?

"There was talk of that at one point," says the security guard.

Has the plan been abandoned?

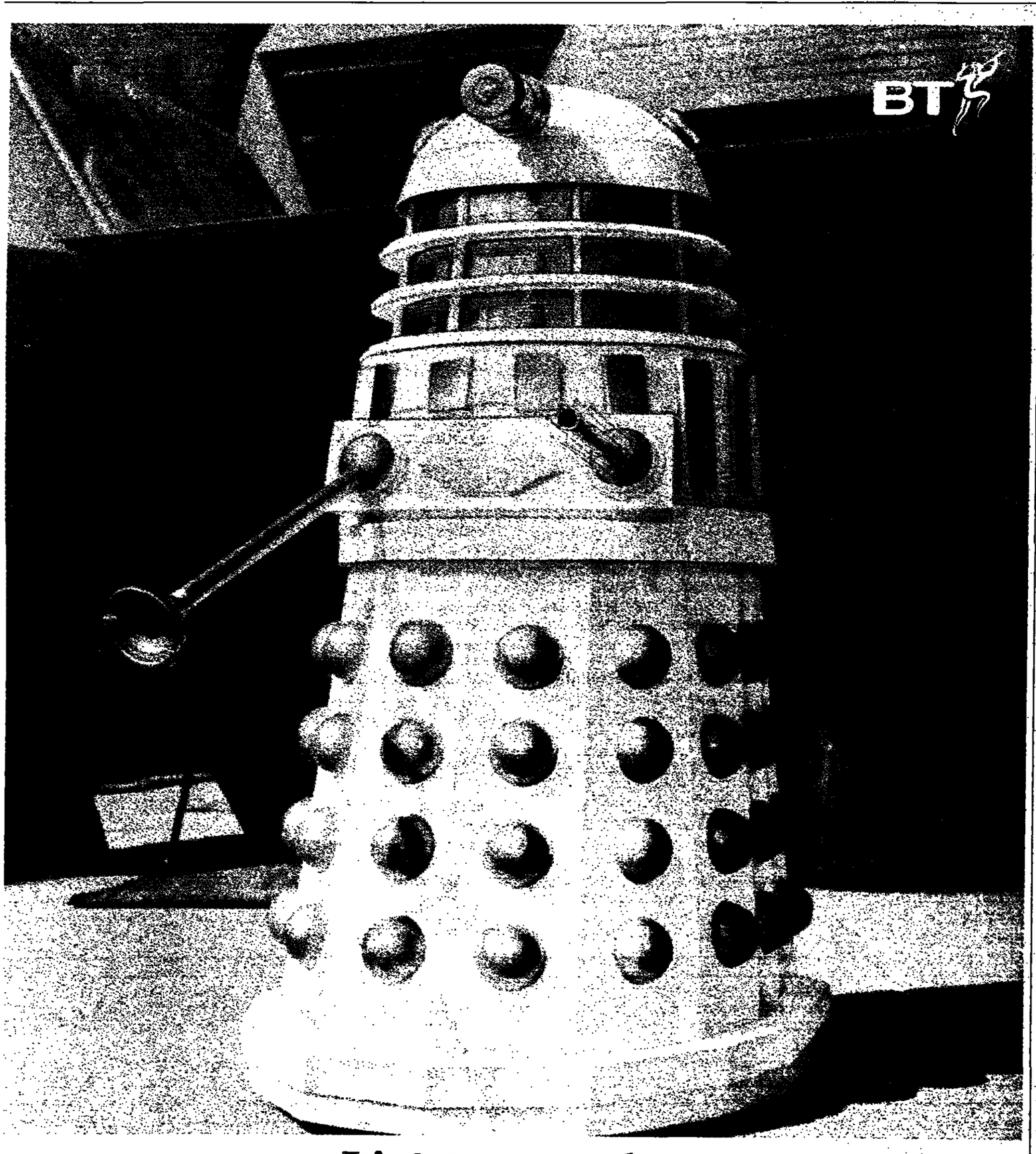
"Nobody tells us anything. We just open the gates to let the horses out."

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY in the Commons: questions to employment ministers and the Prime Minister, with Tony Newton, Leader of the House, standing in for John Major. Debates on the Finance Bill, remaining stages, and the Infant Formula and Follow-on Formula Regulations. In the Lords: debate on Mental Health (Patients in the Community) Bill.

TODAY in the Commons: From 10am, the Easter adjournment debate, followed by backbench debates on compensation arising from compulsory purchase orders and privatisation costs. From 2.30pm, questions to trade and industry ministers. Debate on Licensing (Sunday Hours) Bill, remaining stages. At the Lords: debates on the recruitment and training of probation officers and farm funding.

The Commons rises for its Easter break on Wednesday and the Lords on Thursday. Both Houses return on April 18.



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Climate summit disintegrates as nations squabble

FROM NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT, IN BERLIN

AN INTERNATIONAL environment summit on global warming was slipping into chaos last night with the chances of any meaningful agreements looking slim.

The United Nations climate conference in Berlin is trying to broker fresh and deep cuts in "greenhouse" gas emissions among more than 100 nations after scientific evidence that rising carbon emissions threaten to disrupt weather patterns and raise sea levels.

But as ministers including John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, flew in, officials admitted that even the simplest first steps were proving difficult. Countries have failed to agree whether voting on any possible deal should be by majority or by block vote. Maurice Strong, the former head of the UN Conference on Environment and Development, said yesterday: "The mood is sombre."

Meanwhile, several nations have joined forces to block firm action in alliances that would have been unthinkable a few years ago. The United States, the world's biggest emitter of carbon, has said that it does not want any fresh targets or timetables, putting it on the same side as the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, which includes Iran.

Australia, one of the world's biggest coal exporters, has also aligned itself with America. Environmentalists say that the Republican-dominated US Congress has guided the American stance amid concern that tougher controls smack of government intervention, threatening to undermine the nation's economic competitiveness.

Countries representing the developing world, including several island states, have agreed that global warming is a reality, but have rejected American moves calling for them to share a greater burden in cutting emissions.

A senior British official said yesterday: "This position does not just stick in the US delegation's throat but in others' too." However, Dr Jeremy Legget, of Greenpeace, says: "It has always been understood that the developed world, which has a fifth of the population but produces 80 per cent of the greenhouse gases, should act first. At some stage the developing countries will have to join in, but not now."

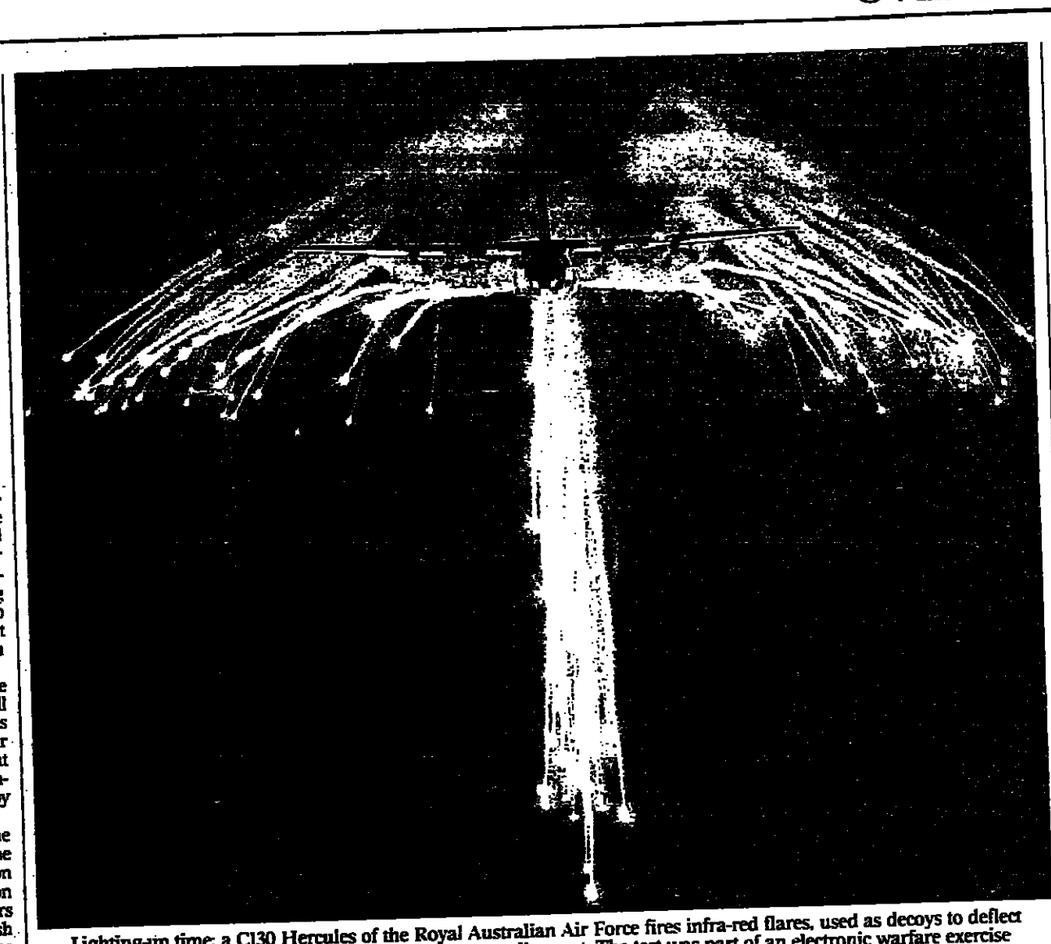
The summit has not been helped by a draft economic report that has tried to cost the impact of global warming. It has valued the life of a Bangladeshi farmer, killed by a cyclone, at $150,000 (£94,000). But an American or European killed by the ravages of climate change has been valued at ten times more.

Dr Legget says: "Delegates from developing countries are using quite colourful language in response to this. It has not helped the discussions."

The meeting has also been marked by a string of environmental protests, including one in which three activists staged a sit-in at a coal-fired power station near Cologne. The protest is aimed at highlighting huge German subsidies to coal, which green groups want cut to reduce carbon emissions.

Most officials agree that the arrival today of ministers will be crucial if any agreement is to be found by Friday. Mr Gummer has proposed that nations agree to cut greenhouse gases by 5-10 per cent by 2010 from 1990 levels.

It has the support of the European Union and some countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. "Ministers will certainly have to bash heads if this is all going to be resolved," Dr Legget said.



Lighting-up time: a C130 Hercules of the Royal Australian Air Force fires infra-red flares, used as decoys to deflect heat-seeking missiles, at dusk over the South Australia coast. The test was part of an electronic warfare exercise

MP quits over fake Maori phone-in

FROM MIKE MUNRO IN WELLINGTON

A SENIOR New Zealand government MP, who had telephoned a radio station and masqueraded as a Maori "dole bludger", was forced to quit yesterday as a parliamentary whip. The move comes amid a growing race relations crisis over official land reparations to Maoris.

John Carter, formerly the Chief Whip of the ruling National Party, emerged from a terse meeting with Jim Bolger, the Prime Minister, to acknowledge that what was intended as a joke had caused offence. His resignation, he added, "was the most honourable action that I could take".

Mr Carter made his bogus call to a talk-back programme hosted by a fellow government MP, John Banks, the Tourism Minister. During the call, Mr Carter spoke with a fake Maori accent and expressed support for a proposed rugby trip to South Africa by MPs, stating: "What's wrong with a free trip, man? I have been having a free trip all my life."

Bellamy Russia plea

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

DAVID BELLAMY, the television botanist and leading environmentalist, warned the Commons Environment Committee yesterday of the worsening pollution crisis in Russia and urged MPs to help to co-ordinate Western efforts to alleviate the problem.

He said atmospheric and river pollution were so bad that 80 per cent of Russian drinking water fell below recognised purity standards. Soil pollution was such that much of the food Russians ate was sub-standard. Professor Bellamy, who chairs the UK steering committee of the London Initiative on the Russian Environment, said the West could do much to help Russia with financial aid, advice on legislation and the dissemination of environmentally friendly technology.



Banjo Paterson, who serenaded fellow drinkers

'Matilda' waltzes into controversy

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

FORGET *God Save The Queen* and *Advance Australia Fair*. The song that most Australians regard as their national anthem, *Waltzing Matilda*, celebrates its centenary tomorrow.

It was 100 years ago that Andrew Barton Paterson — Banjo to his friends — sat in the bar of the North Gregory Hotel in tiny Winton, Queensland, and serenaded fellow drinkers with the tale of the swagman camped by a billabong under the shade of a coolabah tree.

A century later thousands of *Matilda* fans, including Paul Keating, the Prime Minister, will gather in Winton to mark the anniversary with a Banjo Paterson festival that is due to last for at least 12 days.

The Australian leader knows how to milk such an occasion. It may be a song about a sheep thief who commits suicide, but Mr Keating is also aware that the rhythm and lyrics strike an emotional chord with millions of his countrymen. He admits that *Waltzing Matilda* "always brings the hair up on the back of my neck and is part and parcel of whatever we are as Australians".

However, the song that is synonymous with wide, brown, outback landscapes and colourful characters from Australia's past, almost certainly comes from Britain. According to evidence revealed in a television documentary to be broadcast in Australia to mark the *Matilda* centenary, the tune is based on two songs, *Craigielea* from Scotland, and *The Bold Fusilier*, a 17th century English marching song designed to round up troops for the Duke of Marlborough.

Such views get short shrift in Winton, where any suggestion that *Waltzing Matilda* comes from the Poms is tantamount to treason. "I dare say if the Brits try to claim it as their own there will be some kind of squeal over it," cautioned Ray Fallon, landlord of the North Gregory Hotel. "They've got plenty of good songs already, but *Waltzing Matilda* isn't one of them. It's Australian and it always will be."

Sheile Ballie, a Winton museum employee, is not so sure. "There are so many different theories about its origin that you pays your money and takes your choice," she admits.

A letter sold at Sotheby's in Melbourne two years ago indicated that the swagman's ditty almost certainly came from Scotland. In it, Banjo Paterson confirmed that the tune was based on *Craigielea*.

Q Who benefits most from Scotland's clean air?

Of course, we Scots do.

But cleaner air is a global issue. And because Scotland uses nuclear power, the English and everyone in the world benefits, for the simple reason that nuclear power is one of the cleanest ways of generating electricity.

Here are a few more questions you might like answered regarding Scottish Nuclear and the environment.

Q Without Scottish Nuclear, how many more tonnes of the greenhouse gas, CO_2, would have been released into the environment last year alone?

A A 7 million? ❑
B 11 million? ❑
C 14 million? ❑

If the electricity generated by our two power stations had been produced by burning coal, 14 million extra tonnes of CO_2 would have helped fuel the "greenhouse effect".

Q Which of the following does not cause acid rain?

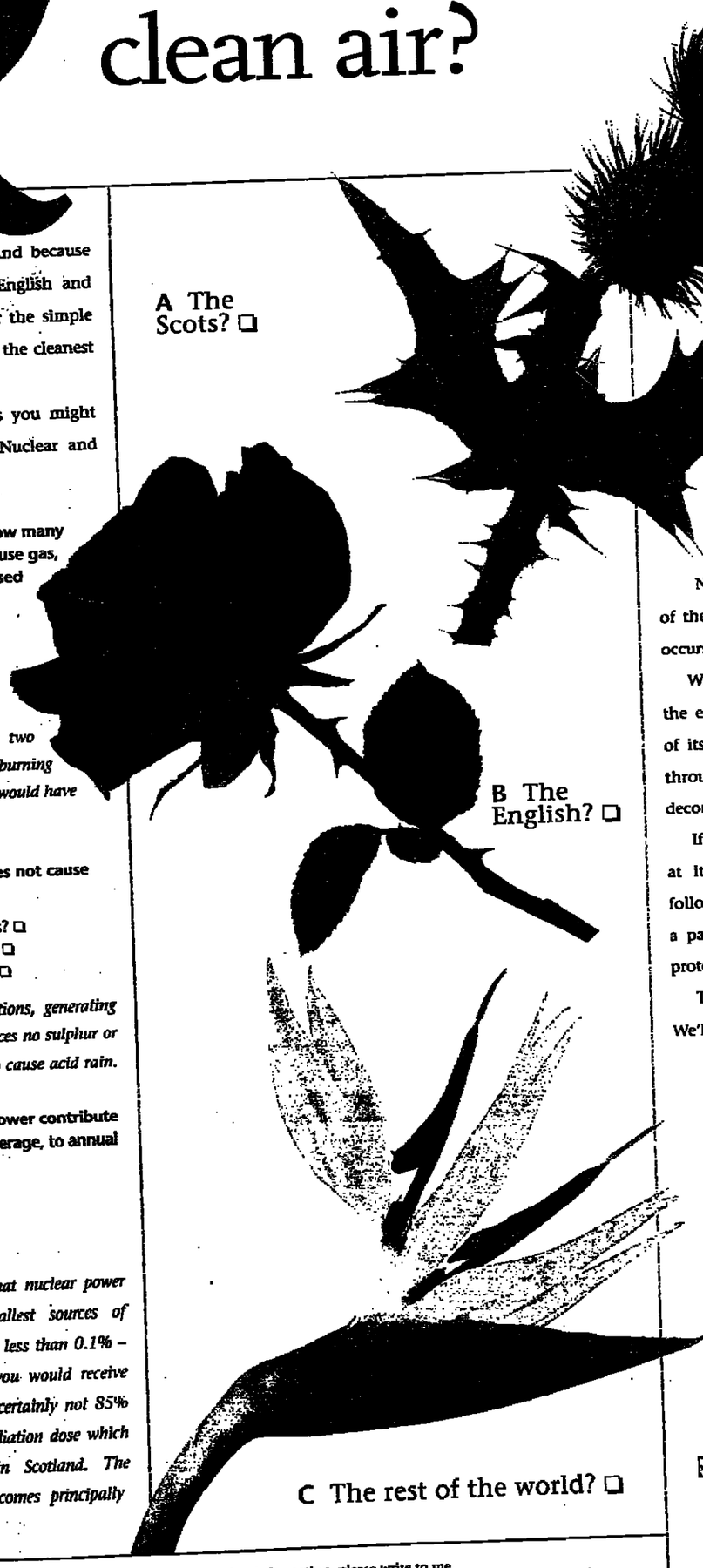
A A Coal fired power stations? ❑
B Oil fired power stations? ❑
C Nuclear power stations? ❑

Unlike coal or oil fired power stations, generating electricity from nuclear power produces no sulphur or nitrogen oxides which are known to cause acid rain.

Q How much does nuclear power contribute through discharges, on average, to annual public radiation doses?

A A 85%? ❑
B 6%? ❑
C Less than 0.1%? ❑

You may be surprised to learn that nuclear power discharges are one of the smallest sources of radiation exposure, accounting for less than 0.1% – that's only a fraction of what you would receive on a return flight to Spain. It's certainly not 85% as this is the amount of your radiation dose which comes from natural sources in Scotland. The remaining, approximately 15% comes principally from medical sources.



A The Scots? ❑
B The English? ❑
C The rest of the world? ❑

Understandably, more and more people are concerned about the environment and world ecology. Scottish Nuclear being among them.

Nuclear power generation offers many environmental benefits. It does not contribute to the "greenhouse effect" and, because it doesn't produce sulphur or nitrogen oxides, it doesn't contribute to acid rain.

Nuclear power produces only a tiny fraction of the radiation that surrounds us – most of it occurs naturally.

What's more Scottish Nuclear's concern for the environment extends through every aspect of its work, from the generation of electricity through to waste management and the eventual decommissioning of its power stations.

If the world's population continues to grow at its present rate and energy consumption follows current trends, nuclear power must be a part of any future energy mix if we are to protect the environment.

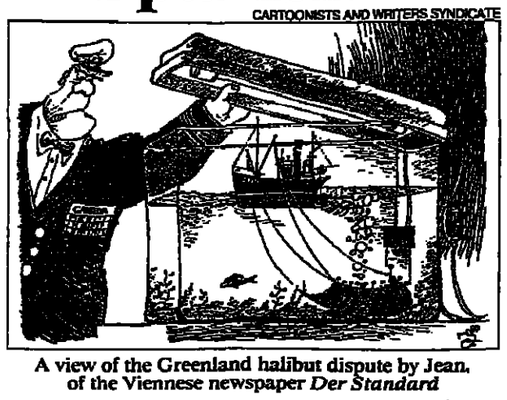
The truth is, we need nuclear power now. We'll need it even more in the future.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please write to me, Irene Currie, Corporate Communications Department (TTA), Scottish Nuclear Limited, FREEPOST, East Kilbride G74 5PR.

A selection of your questions along with our answers will be published in forthcoming articles in this paper.

Scottish Nuclear

Spanish ministers reject EU peace plan in Atlantic fish war



A view of the Greenland halibut dispute by Jean, of the Viennese newspaper *Der Standard*

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS AND RICHARD CLEROUX IN OTTAWA

THE fishing war between Spain and Canada flared again last night when it became clear that Madrid's objections to a proposed peace deal were so profound that it could scupper the chances of a solution.

The question of Atlantic catches will become an increasing problem within the European Union, with Spain expressing unhappiness at Britain's role. The issue seems certain to be high on the agenda of EU foreign ministers when they meet early next week. Spanish ministers and officials yesterday spelt out Madrid's disagreements with a draft deal completed late on Monday night. The proposal, they said, allocated Spain 8,000 tonnes of fish in the disputed zone off the Grand Banks; Madrid had asked for 13,500 tonnes, or a 50-50 split with Canada. Spain also objected to Canada being allowed exclusive rights to 7,000 tonnes of fish in a "box" of sea outside Canadian territorial waters.

In a radio interview, Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister, declared the deal unacceptable and took a swipe at Britain for supporting Canada against its EU partner. Britain's stance, he said, was a "serious mistake. At some point Britain will need to call on the solidarity of others and we would remind them that solidarity is required all the time and not just when it is convenient," he said.

In Canada, however, it is widely accepted that the Greenland halibut war was planned as early as last autumn by the Canadians with at least the complicity of one or more of Spain's European Union partners, who wanted its fisherman to be taught a lesson.

Canadian negotiators have been planning for some time to trade away Greenland halibut quotas in return for Spain and Portugal respecting conservation of stocks off the Grand Banks. In the past few years, fishermen from Europe and Canada have been catching about 60,000 tonnes of Greenland halibut a year. Of that, about 45,000 tonnes have been caught by Spain and Portugal.

Last autumn, the North Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (Nafo) set a total catch for everyone of 27,000 tonnes, less than half of the previous year's total, in an effort to allow depleted stocks to regenerate. Canada, which had only a marginal interest in Greenland halibut until recently, was given 16,300 tonnes — 69 per cent of the total — and the European Union (only Spain and Portugal catch Greenland halibut) was given 3,400 tonnes, less than a tenth of what it had caught the previous year. The Spanish and Portuguese were furious and served notice that they would ignore the quota and catch 16,300 tonnes.

Canadian fisheries officials believe that the Spanish and Portuguese passed their quota within the first two weeks of January, and that by the end of that month had caught more than 7,000 tonnes and were well on their way to matching last year's catch.

The generosity of Nafo to Canada was widely interpreted as a punishment for Spain and Portugal and as a move to drag them to the negotiating table to discuss enforcement rules.

Simon Jenkins, page 14

Bosnian Muslims drive Serbs from vital stronghold

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

BOSNIAN government forces have driven the Serbs off a strategic mountain stronghold that dominates the central region of the country as the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina enters its fourth year.

The Muslims' capture of most of Mount Vlasic, which overlooks the town of Travnik, is one of their most important military gains. Bosnian Croat troops said that their guns were also involved.

The Serbs have held the mountain position for most of the war, from where they have launched artillery attacks on Travnik, the Muslim stronghold of Zenica and other towns in central Bosnia. The guns have also posed a potential threat to the British United Nations camp at Vitez.



Bosnian government forces have been trying for months to dislodge the Serbs from the mountain. Now, after seizing the communications tower and most of the position, the Muslims will have an added incentive to continue fighting rather than seek a peaceful end to the war.

Yesterday, an official of the UN Protection Force (Unprofor) southwest sector, based at Gornji Vakuf, said it was difficult to get precise reports because of limitations on the movement of Unprofor troops in the area around Travnik. "Unconfirmed reports indicate that Bosnian government forces have taken the Vlasic feature and the communications tower," he said. The seizure of Mount Vlasic would provide Bosnian government troops with a springboard for other operations.

News of the Muslim capture of Vlasic came as the five nations of the Contact Group met in London to find a formula to keep peace hopes alive. The so-called ceasefire, broken with increasing frequency, ends in just over three weeks.

Diplomatic sources said the Contact Group of Britain, America, France, Russia and Germany discussed offering Serbia gradual relief from UN sanctions in return for Belgrade's recognition of Bosnia and Croatia. Officials of the Bosnian government, whose forces are on the offensive around Tuzla as well as around Travnik, have vowed not to extend the ceasefire. However, American officials hope Bosnian government leaders might be persuaded to reconsider a truce extension if there were some sign of a diplomatic breakthrough.

Vlasic dominates the highlands to the north and important river valleys to the south and west. Control of the peak secures access routes to Donji Vakuf and Jajce, both Serb-held towns.

War mocks dream of Sarajevo peace

FROM JOEL BRAND IN SARAJEVO

IT WAS a chill evening a little less than a year into the war when Ibrahim Bajrahmovic, crouching in a snowy trench on a front line west of Sarajevo, saw a ghost float towards him across no man's land.

The "man made of smoke" stopped in front of his position. "I heard a voice saying that the war would stop after three years," the electrician, 47, said. "That was two years ago. But now I am not so sure."

"Ibro", as his friends call him, had dozed off. The spectre had come to him in a dream.

On April 5 — three years ago today — a rebel Serb sniper shot Suada Dilberovic through the chest as she attended a demonstration for peace in the city centre. A student from Dubrovnik, she was the first of more than 10,000 victims to fill Sarajevo's cemeteries, football pitches and parks. Three years later, Sarajevo is an entirely different city. Much of it has been damaged by shellfire and most of Sarajevo's architectural heritage consists of charred monuments in the continuing siege.

Fresh Bosnian army offensives — so far successful — have cracked the frozen winter calm around the country. Fighting is beginning to spread and United Nations peacekeepers and civilians are braced for what promises to be a tumultuous spring and summer.

Sarajevo residents are stocking up — as best they can afford after three years of siege — on staple foods and goods which have been hard to obtain during previous bad times.

Life in the capital is thriving in a way it has not since before the war, but anyone who can is leaving.



Russian workers walk past a plastic sculpture of Abraham Lincoln yesterday in Gorky Park, Moscow, part of a miniature replica of Mount Rushmore. Like the original in the Black Hills of South Dakota, the copy will also include busts of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Theodore Roosevelt. The images will be upright by the time President Clinton attends the Moscow VE-Day celebrations on May 9

Ukraine parliament shuns reforms

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

THE Ukrainian parliament dealt a blow to President Kuchma and economic reform in the former Soviet Union yesterday by passing a vote of no confidence in the Cabinet, which it accused of lacking concern for the welfare of the population. But Mr Kuchma vowed to continue his reform programme, which has won high praise from the West.

The parliament in Kiev, which is dominated by conservative former Communist officials and managers, voted by 292 to 15 to dismiss the Government, currently headed by Yevgeni Marchuk, the caretaker Prime Minister.

In a snub to Mr Kuchma, the vote came only minutes before the President was due to make a "state of the nation" address to parliament. In the no-confidence debate, Oleg Dyomin, the deputy parliamentary chairman, said the Government had "no conception for restructuring the economy", and that "no social measures were adopted to accompany the freeing of prices". Mr Marchuk, a former deputy head of the KGB, replaced Vitali Masol, the conservative Prime Minister, only a month ago. Although not a natural reformer, his Cabinet contains leading radical reformist ministers whose presence is considered by Western diplomats to be essential to the economic reforms.



Kuchma: expected to keep Cabinet

Mr Kuchma is expected to keep most of the present Cabinet, possibly making a token bow to parliament by replacing Mr Marchuk or carrying out a limited reshuffle. If the parliament remains recalcitrant, the Ukrainian constitution allows the President to keep ministers in office almost indefinitely on a "provisional" basis. The next significant threat to Mr Kuchma from parliament is strong resistance among deputies to passing the budget. This imposes severe restrictions on spending as part of the struggle against hyper-inflation, which at times in the past three years has seemed close to tearing Ukraine apart.

In his speech yesterday, Mr Kuchma said the passage of the budget was essential if the International Monetary Fund was to release a planned stand-by credit of $1.8 billion (£1.1 billion) to Ukraine, crucial for economic stabilisation. "This year should be a turning point in not only getting Western political support but financial help for our reforms," he said. "We will never join the ranks of leading nations if Ukraine's economic rebirth does not become the overall unifying national ideal."

Romania crash jet 'had fault'

Brussels: The co-pilot of a Romanian aircraft that crashed last Friday killing all 60 on board complained of a technical problem just before losing contact, a Belgian newspaper reported yesterday.

Le Soir said it had obtained the text of the last conversation between the co-pilot and the control tower in Bucharest. "This one is wrong," the co-pilot was reported to have said in an apparent reference to a fault showing up on his control panel. The report lessened the credibility of a theory that a bomb caused the plane to crash minutes after take-off from Bucharest. *(Reuter)*

Hungary tackles criminal gangs

Budapest: Hungary is to launch an intelligence task-force to stop international criminals getting a foothold in the country's political establishment (Adam LeBor writes). The announcement was made by Istvan Nikolits, Minister for the Secret Services. The group's brief will include investigating large transfers of money. Gangs in Budapest are engaged in a growing struggle for control of lucrative rackets.

Kohl will attend Moscow VE-Day

Bonn: Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, will attend Moscow's commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War after Russia agreed not to hold a militaristic victory march, officials said. President Yeltsin will hold the military parade away from Red Square, so Herr Kohl can attend without embarrassment. *(Reuter)*

Archbishop backs use of condoms

Marseilles: Mgr Robert Coffy, the Catholic Archbishop of Marseilles, said yesterday that condoms should be allowed "in very specific cases", notably in preventing the spread of Aids.

The ailing prelate, 75, said condom use was justified if it prevented an infected person from "killing their neighbour". The Catholic community "cannot ask them [people with Aids] to kill their neighbour by giving them Aids".

His comments came after the publication of Pope John Paul's encyclical last week reaffirming the Catholic Church's teaching on contraception, which bans all forms except the rhythm method.

Mgr Coffy, seriously ill and due to celebrate his farewell Mass on Sunday, added: "Sexuality is a great treasure which does not exist on its own but belongs to a loving relationship." *(AFP)*

Kinkel says Turks must leave Iraq

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

TURKEY'S Foreign Minister, Erdal Inonu, was subjected yesterday to a barrage of criticism from German politicians, human rights activists and even police commanders infuriated by suggestions that their men were not protecting Turkish homes.

About 120 Turkish restaurants, boarding houses and clubs have been burnt down in Germany in the past two weeks as Ankara's war against the Kurds spreads to its most important European ally.

By the end of his two-day visit, the minister's campaign to woo back Turkey's unhappy Western allies seemed to be on the brink of collapse. Klaus Kinkel, the Foreign Minister, criticised Turkey's incursion of northern Iraq and made it clear that Europe had a very powerful lever: it could block ratification in the European Parliament of Turkish participation in the European customs union. Herr Kinkel said Turkey should leave northern Iraq "as quickly as possible".

For his part, Mr Inonu said: "Our aim is to destroy Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) arms depots and ensure that the PKK cannot attack our country from there. When we have achieved this aim, our soldiers will return."

Tansu Ciller, the Turkish Prime Minister, also insisted yesterday that her troops had every right to be there. In a veiled reference to Germany, which froze military aid in protest, she said: "You can keep your weapons."

Mr Inonu upset police by accusing the security forces of doing "far too little" to protect Turks living in fear in Germany. Gerhard Bokel, the Interior Minister of Hesse, called the claim "grotesque".

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Effective at 5th April 1995.

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	£ 25,000 - £ 49,999	6.65
	£ 5,000 - £ 24,999	6.20
	£ 1,000 - £ 4,999	4.60
Nova Ninety Offshore	£150,000 - £500,000	7.55
	£ 50,000 - £149,999	7.25
	£ 25,000 - £ 49,999	6.85
	£ 5,000 - £ 24,999	6.30
Nova Growth Bond Offshore	£ 5,000 - £500,000	Annual / Monthly Year 1 7.50 / 7.25 Year 2 8.25 / 8.00 Year 3 10.75 / 10.50
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Hitch-hiker Balladur's guide to the polls

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

WAS the lady in the Mercedes a set-up? The question was at the centre of French presidential polemics yesterday after an embarrassing disclosure about the identity of the woman who gave Edouard Balladur, the Gaullist Prime Minister, a taste of the hitch-hiker's life.

Much fuss was made last week over the ease with which the patrician Prime Minister had all alone flagged down a passing car — albeit a Mercedes — after fog had forced his helicopter to deposit him in open countryside near Arles. The presidential candidate proclaimed his adventure to have been great fun and his team milked the trip with a woman driver as proof that he was really a humble man of the people. News yesterday that Claire Lacaille, the motorist, is related to one of M Balladur's senior lieutenants triggered a gleeful barrage from the camps of Jacques Chirac, his Gaullist rival, and Lionel Jospin, the Socialist. François Baroin, spokesman for M Chirac, diagnosed either a miracle or a set-up. "The French public should know the truth if this was a publicity stunt to show that M Balladur is close to the people," he said. On the other side, Pierre Moscovici, M Jospin's campaign treasurer, said: "In the United States a candidate would have to withdraw" if he was caught doing such a stunt.

Hounded in deepest Provence by the media, Mme Lacaille said that fate had put the stately hitch-hiker in her path. "Do they think M Balladur can order the fog?" she asked. Georges Tron, the MP and Balladur aide, was merely her husband's first cousin and, clinching her point, she added that she was not voting for M Balladur.

The squabble offered some relief in the increasingly venomous duel between the brother Gaullists as they battle for supremacy in the two-round election, due on April 23 and May 7. Over the past two days each has accused the other of trying to monopolise power by installing cronies in key posts.

Meanwhile, further down the field, a handful of minor contenders saw their campaigns ended by their failure to meet last night's deadline for lodging the required forms with the signatures of 500 elected officials from at least 30 départements.

هكذا من الاصل

Hutu extremists pressure refugees to invade Rwanda

FROM SAM KILEY IN KIGALI

HUTU extremists yesterday demanded a war tax from Hutu refugees sheltering in Tanzania, claiming that the refugees' only hope of survival was to join Hutu militiamen and Rwanda's former army to invade the country.

Aid workers fear a series of attacks by Hutu extremists, responsible for last year's genocide, to coincide with the anniversary of the slaughter tomorrow.

James Fennell, head of emergency operations for Care International, said that reports from Benaco camp, near Tanzania's border with Rwanda, where 750,000 Hutu refugees are living, were "terrifying".

"There is no doubt that the extremists are putting huge pressure on their people to join a movement, using fear engendered by the anniversary to whip up ethnic animosity. I am convinced that we will see an upsurge in instability in the coming weeks," he said.

The warning comes a day after reports of a Tutsi massacre of 400 Hutu men, women and children in north-east Burundi. Tutsi officers have dismissed the claim, insisting that only 20 Hutu guerrillas who had been preying on the local Hutu population had been killed. The United Nations said, however, that it had unconfirmed reports of mass killings in two other northern Burundi villages.

Robert Krueger, the American Ambassador who revealed similar massacres in the past and who has been put on a hit list for his outspokenness, said that most of the victims he saw were women and children who had been bludgeoned with rocks, stabbed with bayonets, or slashed with knives and machetes. "When you look at a child who has been clubbed so badly that his brains are projecting out; when you look at infants who have been beaten and hit with machetes, you know that these are not people caught in some sort of crossfire. It's horrendous and beyond belief," he said.

Burundi has a Hutu President and a Tutsi Prime Minister, who share power in an increasingly fragile coalition. Fearing the country is on the brink of another bloodbath, President Ntibantunganya gave a warning of "double genocide".

Hutu refugees in Tanzania were addressed yesterday by Jean-Baptiste Gatete, a leading member of the "death squadron" that planned last year's genocide. He has also been identified by Western security sources as the main organiser of shipments of light weapons and long-range 120mm mortars, as well as millions of rounds of ammunition, to Hutu soldiers in training camps in the Central African Republic and Zaire.

Tanzania yesterday rejected a UN appeal to reopen the border with Burundi, which it closed to prevent 55,000 refugees from crossing after rumours that they were to be targeted by their Tutsi rivals.

"It is a decision we intend to stick to," Colonel Abdulrahaman Kinana, the Defence Minister, said. He also accused the international community of not doing enough to force Rwanda to take back its refugees.

Many diplomats and aid workers, as well as moderate Hutu refugees, now believe that the rumours were spread deliberately by Hutu extremists in Tanzania and Zaire who are anxious to concentrate Hutus under the control of the *interahamwe* (those who kill together) militia and the defeated Hutu army driven from power last year.

Tanzania and Zaire have been used as bases for Hutu extremists to train while they have been fed by the international community. Rwanda's new coalition Government, which remains dominated by the Tutsi-lead Rwandan Patriotic Front, has been unable to raise funds to put those responsible for the genocide on trial. Ahmed Salim Salim, the Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity, yesterday called on the international community to help Rwanda to start war crimes trials.

Leading article, page 15



Ntibantunganya: fears 'double genocide'

Ethnic killings rife in Burundi

BY MICHAEL DYNES

SINCE independence from Belgium in 1962, Burundi has become notorious for its massacres, the worst of which took place in 1972, when an estimated 100,000 men, women and children were killed.

Burundi has a history of conflict between the Tutsi, who are mainly herders and make up 14 per cent of the population, and the farming Hutu who account for the rest.

For the first three decades, the country was run by Tutsi-dominated regimes which proved ruthless in crushing opposition.

In June 1993, during Burundi's first multiparty elections, the Hutu, led by Melchior Ndadaye, won a landslide victory. The result marked the end of the Tutsis' domination, although they were represented in the new administration and remained in control of the army.

In October that year, President Ndadaye was overthrown and executed by Tutsi paratroopers, the victim of Burundi's fourth coup since independence. Violent and widespread slaughter followed as Tutsis and Hutus exacted revenge.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees estimated that 740,000 people fled to Rwanda, Tanzania and Zaire. The plotters were disowned by Tutsi army chiefs, while Sylvie King, the former President's Prime Minister, was persuaded to form a new government.

In April last year, Burundi's new president, Cyprien Ntaryamira, and President Habyarimana of Rwanda were killed when their plan was shot down as they returned from a meeting to discuss the end of ethnic hostilities in Burundi. The UN predicted further outbreaks of violence.

FACTFILE

Population: 5,786,000
Languages: French, Kirundi, Swahili
Religion: Roman Catholic majority, animist minority
Currency: Burundi franc
Capital: Bujumbura
Status: Republic



Chelsea Clinton, left, with her mother Hillary in Sri Lanka, gathers some good publicity for the First Family

Chelsea Clinton makes political debut

BY MARTIN FLETCHER

FOR the first time in ages a member of the Clinton family is winning glowing reviews from the American media. The subject is not the battered president, however, nor even the widely loathed First Lady, but their 15-year-old daughter.

The Clintons have been fiercely protective of Chelsea, keeping her well out of the spotlight ever since her father first began his presidential campaign, but for the past week she has been accompanying her mother on a tour of the Indian sub-continent widely described as her international "coming out" party and debut on the public stage. She has lunched with Benazir Bhutto, the Pakistani Prime Minister, cuddled babies at Mother Teresa's orphanage in Delhi and sat with poor village women in Bangladesh. Each night the news has carried pictures of Chelsea posing happily with her mother in front of the Taj Mahal, riding an elephant in Nepal or visiting a mosque. She has rejected the "kid's programmes" laid on for her by the various US embassies, opting instead to share her mother's itinerary.

At an age when many adolescents are postively horrid, Chelsea has been "a delightful and serene presence on the trip, a sure source of pride for her mother," reported *Newsweek*. For all her faults Mrs Clinton has "accomplished the most enviable thing of all. She has bought up a nice child," concurred a *Washington Post* columnist, adding that "the President may get some credit, too".

Chelsea has learned to take the crush of cameras and journalists in her stride, and the White House has for the first time relaxed its rigid rules for covering her. But while Chelsea has been winning hearts her mother continues to generate controversy - this time for her failure to generate controversy. This most active proponent of women's rights is being criticised for travelling through the subcontinent without explictly condemning its notorious ill-treatment of women.

Menem saw 'dirty war' dead dumped in river

BY GABRIELLA GAMINI

PRESIDENT MENEM of Argentina has said he saw bodies of tortured political opponents thrown from navy ships into the River Plate during the "dirty war" waged by a 1970s military junta.

Señor Menem, briefly imprisoned by the regime in 1976 because of his left-wing activities, was one of the few released alive. "Bodies were regularly flushed down the river," he told the *Página 12* daily newspaper. "I remember seeing this when I was held on a navy ship anchored at the Buenos Aires port. Those who died after torture sessions were disposed of.

"At night, we could see rows of prisoners, with hoods covering their faces, being brought on board. Next we heard horrific screams from the galleys below that were used as torture chambers," he said.

The Argentine President had previously avoided raising the issue of human rights abuses during the years of military dictatorship to appease the armed forces and "reintegrate them into the democratic system".

But the forgive-and-forget stance he has maintained since taking office in 1990, when he declared a law of amnesty absolving officers accused of killing and torture, has come under increasing criticism only weeks before the May 14 polls in which he is seeking re-election. After a week of protests led by human rights organisations in Buenos Aires, Señor Menem appears keen to show a change of attitude.

The public demand for more light to be shed on the disappearance of at least 10,000 suspected left-wing "subversives" during the "dirty war" was revived after the macabre confessions of Adolfo Scilingo, a former naval captain. He admitted belonging to a naval team that ran regular flights to throw thousands of torture victims into the Atlantic while they were still alive.

"We injected them first so they would be delirious. When they were semi-conscious we carried them on to the naval planes. We undressed them and, when the commanding officer gave his order, we opened the aircraft door and threw them out, naked, one by one," said Captain Scilingo. "At the time, we thought nothing of it: we were just ordered to do this." President Menem at first dismissed him as an "unreliable thief" in an attempt to diminish the impact of the confession. This week he reversed his stance, urging other officers to confess.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bombing suspect arrested

Delhi: India is expected to ask Britain this week to extradite a suspected key player in a series of explosions that destroyed the Bombay Stock Exchange and several other buildings in 1993 (Christopher Thomas writes).

Iqbal Muhammad Memon, 45, was arrested in London on Monday. He is understood to be a British passport-holder. Mr Memon, of Hornchurch, Essex, also known as Iqbal Mirchi, is said to own several businesses around the world. Bombay police want to question him about the murder of a close associate last year and alleged possession of Mandrax tablets in 1993. They claim he was the main financier of the Bombay blasts.

Gulf offer

Kuwait: Kuwait has offered economic and "moral" support for Bahrain after four months of anti-government unrest in which at least three policemen and nine civilians have died. *(Reuter)*

Cult assets

Tokyo: Aum Shinrikyo, the cult under investigation after nerve-gas attacks in Tokyo's subways, has more than 2.5 billion yen (£18 million) in assets, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* newspaper reported. *(Reuter)*

Release ruled out

Nicosia: Taha Yassin Ramadan, Iraq's Vice-President, has ruled out the early release of two Americans jailed for eight years after mistakenly crossing the border from Kuwait last month.

Coach dies

Sydney: Franz Stampfl, who trained Sir Roger Bannister to become the first person to break the four-minute mile, has died in Melbourne, Australia, at the age of 81.

Obituary, page 17

Losing hand

Roanoke: A Virginia man is suing a palm reader for nearly £2 million for selling him losing lottery numbers. Lola Rose Miller, already in jail for cheating customers, is being sued for the jackpot value. *AP)*

Gingrich strikes deal on tax Bill with Republican rebels

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

NEWT GINGRICH has reached a compromise with rebel Republicans which makes it probable that the House of Representatives will approve tomorrow the *Contract with America's* tenth and final Bill — tax cuts for families and businesses.

Under the compromise, the tax cuts will not be implemented until the House and the Senate have approved, later this year, a plan for eliminating the federal deficit by 2002. The two dozen Republican dissidents had originally demanded that the tax cuts be revoked if Congress failed to achieve annual deficit reduction targets.

Mr Gingrich, the House Speaker, calls the Bill the "crown jewels" of the *Contract*. It proposes a tax credit of $500 (£310) per child for families earning up to $200,000, a 50 per cent reduction in capital gains tax, and various tax breaks for businesses. It would cost an estimated $189 billion over the next five years, making it still harder for the Republicans to find the $1,200 billion in savings required to balance the budget.

With the economy in a healthy state there is no strong financial case for tax cuts, although Republican supply-side advocates say they would generate enough growth to offset their cost.

Mr Gingrich's greater motivation is to restore the Republicans' potent electoral claim to be the tax-cutting party. Democrats are already striving to paint the plan as delivering more Reaganesque giveaways to the rich, financed by deep cuts in benefits for the poor and disadvantaged. Al Gore, the Vice-President, called it "Robin Hood in reverse".

Mr Gingrich and Mr Dole have named Jack Kemp, the former Housing Secretary, to head a new Republican commission on tax reform that will study the increasingly popular idea of replacing the present highly complex income-tax code with a "flat tax" rate of 17 or 20 per cent. A number of prominent Republicans, including some presidential candidates, have embraced the principle of a simple and enforceable "flat tax".

Tel Aviv Holocaust auction scrapped

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

A MACABRE auction of Nazi Holocaust artefacts in Tel Aviv, including a bar of soap allegedly made from victims' bodies, was cancelled yesterday after a public outcry and the threat of police action.

The sale was to have taken place on April 25, two days before the annual Holocaust Remembrance Day on which every vehicle in Israel comes to a minute's halt as sirens wail throughout the country.

The auctioneers were also offering the yellow badges Jews were forced to wear and dog-tags from concentration camp inmates.

An urgent motion on the auction had been tabled in the Knesset and Roni Milo, the Mayor of Tel Aviv, and Yisrael Lau, one of Israel's two Chief Rabbis, were among those who campaigned to have it scrapped.

Yehuda Bauer, a Holocaust historian, said it was a Nazi-inspired myth that soap was made from bodies and the bar to have been auctioned had been issued to German troops.



Susana Fujimori will press on with her political career

Fujimori wife says marriage is over

Lima: The estranged wife of President Fujimori of Peru, stripped of her title as First Lady and barred from politics, said their marriage is beyond repair, although she was not seeking divorce immediately.

Susana Higuchi also promised to press on in politics despite repeated government attempts to block her from seeking office in Sunday's national elections. "I have not begun the divorce proceedings because of the current situation, the conflict with Ecuador," she said, referring to a brief border war that ended with a peace accord in February. *(Reuter)*

Euro-MPs appeal to Clinton over British-born killer

BY BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK AND BILL FROST

THE European Parliament asked President Clinton yesterday to stop the execution of Nicholas Ingram, two days before the British-born convicted murderer is due to die in Georgia's electric chair.

In a letter to Mr Clinton, Klaus Haensch, president of the Parliament, wrote of the "abhorrence in much of Europe for execution by electric chair". He added: "Our appeal to you is made strictly on humanitarian grounds."

In Washington on Monday John Major said again that he could not intervene in the case, despite repeated appeals to the Prime Minister by the mother of the condemned man.

As the execution drew nearer lawyers for Ingram, 32, who was convicted of murdering a Georgia man in 1983, were preparing to appeal for clemency today before the Georgia Board of Pardons and Paroles.

Two members of the English Bar's Human Rights Committee, Philip Sapsford, QC, and David Marshall, are expected to give evidence to the board. The British lawyers will argue that the American practice of keeping prisoners on death row for many years contravenes international custom and constitutes cruel and unusual punishment, contrary to the American Constitution. The lawyers will ask that the sentence be commuted to life imprisonment.

Ingram's legal team will also argue that his murder conviction is unsound because Ingram was legally insane at the time of the murder and suffered from alcoholic blackouts which have left him with no memory of the event.

Mr Sapsford said that the basis of his plea would be the mental torture Ingram had suffered during 12 years on death row. "The court process has come to an end and we are into the clemency process.

"We are looking at it from the point of view that he has been on death row since 1983. That is nearly 12 years and he was only 19 when he was put in prison. He has been through feelings of hope and despair. Can you imagine the alternation of those two emotions? In Europe that is regarded as cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment."

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ADMIRAL

Fearful dons see off pioneer of superhighway seminars

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

A PLAN to build a "video campus" without teachers or buildings at one of America's largest universities has prompted outrage among academics. They foresee a brave new world when technology will make traditional teaching redundant. Michael Orenduff, Chancellor of the University of Maine, was forced to resign this week after his project to build an entirely new campus using interactive television ran into opposition from faculty members at the university's seven existing campuses.

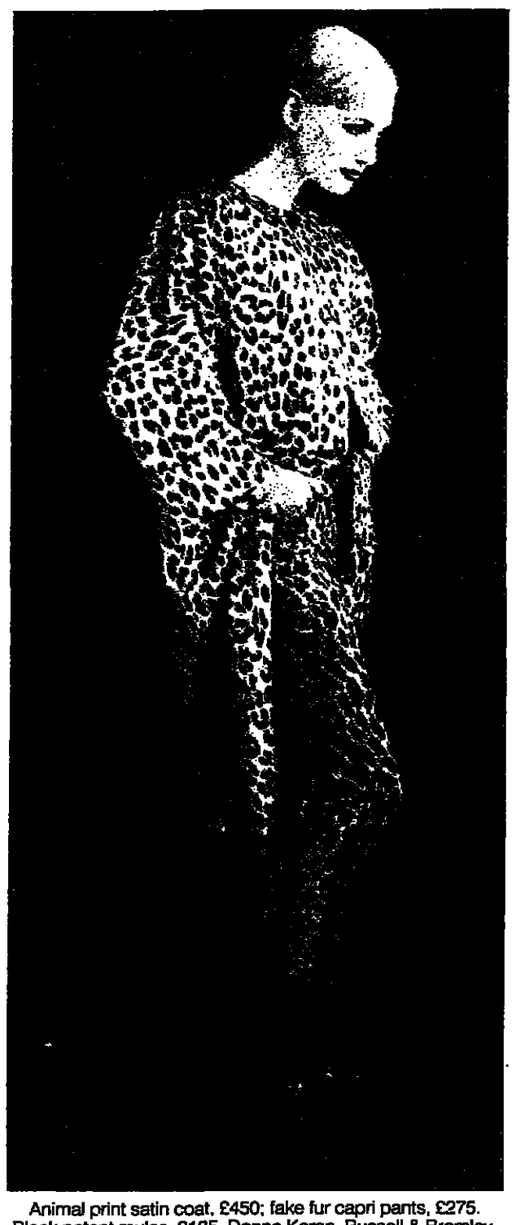
Under Mr Orenduff's plan students would no longer need to attend lectures and classes, but could simply tune in to their chosen subjects on television screens, either from home or other campuses, and then "interact" with a teacher hundreds of miles away.

Faculty staff and students complained that the chancellor failed to consult them on these superhighway seminars, and several no-confidence votes were passed in the three weeks leading to Mr Orenduff's resignation on Sunday.

Academic observers say the spat over the Maine project is only the first skirmish in what is expected to be a long-running dispute over "distance learning" and the effects of computer technology on higher education. Universities use videos and computers as a cheap alternative to personal tuition.

Fierce glamour goes in for the kill with Ninivah Khomo's seductive collections of animal-print designs

SPOT ON



Animal print satin coat, £450; fake fur capri pants, £275. Black patent mules, £135, Donna Karan, Russell & Bromley, selected branches nationwide. Black sheer tights, £3.50, Pretty Polly, major department stores nationwide



Elegant tailoring in extravagant fabrics: long fake fur wrap, £300; matching strapless dress, £875; large diamanté drop earrings, £125; matching bracelet, £35; long satin gloves, £39



Fake fur jacket, £375; matching skirt, £145; animal print gloves, £16.99; black patent clutch bag, £49.99. Black patent high dolly shoes, £39.99, Shellys, 266-270 Regent Street, W1 (inquiries: 0181-450 0066). Black sheer tights, £3.50, Pretty Polly, major department stores nationwide



Khomo: "Once people get hooked, it's intoxicating."

Although the designer Ninivah Khomo was busy in her shop in London during the recent Paris Fashion Week, a pair of her leopard-print trousers were strutting down the catwalk in the French fashion capital. As Rifat Ozbek took his bows at the end of his presentation at the Carousel du Louvre, he modelled a pair of Khomo's unmistakable gold and black spotted pants, a made-to-measure favour for a long-time friend.

"I really admire her," Ozbek says. "She does her own thing rather than following fashion trends, and she does the animal-print thing the best." And at this moment Khomo's ritzy animal-print designs are spot-on fashion's preoccupation with all things alluring.

"I studied at St Martins School of Art in the 1970s," Khomo says. "It was all Roxy Music and Amanda Lear. We'd go to the Embassy Club in Old Bond Street, or fly to Paris to go to Club Sept. Everybody dressed up, there wasn't any grunge or street fashion. If you were on the street you were glam. I like the glamour look."

This is an understatement. A trip to Khomo's shop in swanky Beauchamp Place in London confirms the designer's fabulous fixation. The window is dressed to match her designs — a chaise longue and a tiny gilt chair are both covered with the feline fabric. Inside, everywhere you look has the distinctive mark of the leopard: the clothes hanging on the rail; a stole draped over a chair; jewellery and jewellery boxes (also for sale).

"I got into leopard because of Biba," says Khomo, who was born in Nigeria but raised in England. Biba offered a Hollywood fantasy, a look which Khomo has since made her own. After her graduation in 1977, she immediately began retailing her designs, which caught the eye of Michael Roberts (at the time the fashion editor of *The Sunday Times*) who liked the sexy, seductive image.

Khomo has confidently stuck with the look regardless of fashion's twists and turns and, although never truly feted by the fashion press, she has never been short of customers.

"Once people get hooked on leopard it's intoxicating. They have to come back and buy something else," she says: "maybe a plain black jacket with a leopard collar, or the matching skirt or pants. If they've bought something and it's a success, they'll be back to find that thing again."

What they find at Ninivah Khomo is elegant tailoring in extravagant fabrics: predominantly the leopard-prim story, although the designer also dabbles with other exotic animal markings. Fierce glamour. Exactly what fashion is advocating right now.

"The sort of woman I'm dressing has always wanted this look. I've got a constant customer, clients from all over the world. When they go out wearing my clothes, they stand out and people make a fuss of them. It's a very sexy look."

Indeed it is. Alongside the fitted jackets and slim skirts hang slinky, strapless evening dresses, satin duster coats, trench coats and cropped capri pants — all cut in the catty cloth.

Khomo is also aware that it takes a certain confidence to wear her designs. "You've got to know what you're doing when you put my clothes on. It's silly if you put on a tight leopard dress and your hair is a mess, you haven't got any lipstick and you're wearing the wrong shoes. Forget it. But the women who buy it buy the package. They want the shoes, they want the handbag, and they enjoy it. They are predominantly women in their thirties and forties."

That Khomo and fashion have collided with such a perfect fit is not pure coincidence. With almost predictable regularity fashion offers a smart and shiny version of itself as women demand clothes which make them look good and feel good too.

"A lot of women are relieved that they can get dressed up when they go out. You may not be able to afford fabulous new clothes, but you can buy a fabulous bright red lipstick, or a pair of gorgeous tights. That's my kind of look." "It's absolutely right for now," Rifat Ozbek says. Absolutely.



Fashion

IAIN R. WEBB

Photographs by MARTYN THOMPSON. Make-up by Micki Gardener. Hair by Rick Haylor for John Frieda using John Frieda products.

All clothes by Ninivah Khomo, available from 5 Beauchamp Place, London SW3 (0171-591 0112).

● JAEGER'S summer wardrobe makes for easy shopping, especially when viewed on video. This is usually a perk for regular customers, but Jaeger has 50 spring/summer '95 videos to give away to readers of *The Times*. Send your name and address on a postcard to: The Jaeger Video Offer, Jaeger, 57 Broadwick Street, London W1V 1FU.

● THOSE in the fashion business have long known the virtues of shopping at Marks & Spencer's flagship store at Marble Arch in London. Apart from housing the company's largest selection of lingerie it also sells small runs of high fashion pieces. The latest is a range of Prada-esque bags, each costing £17. The handbag and convertible bag/rucksack are in navy-blue nylon, but will soon be available in black nylon and black and white patent leather.

● FOR EVER bemoaning the state of maternity clothing, many expectant mothers adopt leggings and an oversized shirt. But Harrods has a new arrival, a boxed wardrobe called The Pregnancy Survival Kit by Belly Basics. The four essentials, a dress, tunic, slim skirt and leggings, come in black cotton/Lycra, and the kit costs £129.

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Beware the baby planner

Good parents should never view their children as 'projects'

GOD BLESS the British Psychological Society. Where would we mothers be without it? Nugget after nugget of white-coated wisdom comes our way: first they tell us that there is "no right or wrong way" of getting small babies to sleep at night. Then we get the revelation that babies learn things in the womb.

In this experiment it became apparent that Professor Peter Hepper has never been pregnant or else he would have known that when an unborn baby first hears a strange loud noise — a car door slamming, a siren, a trumpet — it kicks. Next time, having concluded that it presents no threat, the baby ignores that particular sound. Women tell male doctors these things and doctors smile indulgently.



LIBBY PURVES

Someone with an electronic sensor tells it to a conference and they all clap. But the best baby-talk was the theory that children born through IVF have "warmer, more loving" parents, even when there is no genetic link.

Hmmm. Children born by IVF also happen to have *older* parents, since they have tried the cheap and cheerful method first. I have not been able to check whether the researchers used a control group of the same age; I hope so. There is nothing new to be learnt from comparing some slip of a girl who surprised herself with a broodily intense madonna pushing 40. Nancy Mitford rightly observed half a century ago that older mothers were far more "wrapped up" in their babies than young ones, and opined that this might be a bit oppressive for the babies. The older you get, the more people you have known, the more [illegible] your own body and the power, a mystery and a marvel does your own baby seem.

And the effects of IVF itself on family relationships? It was, admittedly, nice to have IVF parents given some ammo against patronising earth-mothers. But I take exception to the headlines suggesting that IVF makes for the "best parents". The sample were all under eight, for heaven's sake, their parents barely off the nursery slopes and nowhere near the treacherous Black Runs of secondary school and puberty. Here, particularly, the "genetic connection" dismissed by the researchers gets very useful to family harmony. If you have a reckless child, or a chronically terrified one, or just a stout short-sighted one, it makes life much easier if one or other parent can say "*Mea culpa*, it was my genes that dunnit". Or even "Oh God, that's Uncle Ted coming out".

Turning to Mitford again, we get the comforting theory that if we are unreasonable and short-tempered, some mysterious biological insurance makes it likely that our children have the grit to take it, and bite back. I have always suspected that adoptive parents need more intuition and flexibility than most of us, and honoured them for it. Honour, too, for those who rear the progeny of an alien egg and sperm, with no Uncle Ted to blame for its tendencies.

But there is a disturbing subtext in the message, running through the news stories, that IVF parents are more loving. The idea will be horribly pleasing to an age of anxious control-freaks already prone to believe that parenthood goes better if it is "planned". Not just in the negative sense of not having babies you can't cope with, but positively, managerially planned. Already we have gender selection clinics, pre-natal education ("Help your Foetus Get Ahead with Maths!") and people who time their conception to wring the greatest possible educational advantage out of the school year.

BUT children are not projects. A project is something you own, something on which success you feel you have earned. A child is not like that. It is an idiosyncratic, self-programmed little time bomb which, quite rightly, does not feel it owes you much. It is a guest, not always a considerate one. Think of it as your project and you will be an awful parent.

Most IVF families are not, thank God, tempted that way. But any who are do well to remember that once pregnant, they start level with the rest of us, and must accept parenthood as the chancy, frustrating, unsolicited adventure it is.

Bank workers thought they had jobs for life. Now their children know better. **Lin Jenkins** reports



MARTIN BEDDALL

Peter Duckett with his wife, Elaine, and daughter Elizabeth: "For the moment we can keep the house, but we still have to find the money to pay the mortgage. Others are in a worse position"

White-collar fright in suburbia

Peter Duckett was made redundant two years ago after 17 years in banking. With tens of thousands of other white-collar workers he has found that solid and respectable jobs once considered as safe as houses are fast disappearing.

He chose to work for a bank, where the rewards were always moderate, in return for a secure future. But now, aged 47, he faces the reverse. "I did it because it would take me all the way to my pension. Now I doubt very much if I will ever again get a full-time, permanent job," he says.

At the weekend Sir Brian Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds Bank, issued a warning that 75,000 jobs would go in banking over the next five years, bringing the unemployment associated with the coal and steel industries and manufacturing to Acacia Avenue or, in Mr Duckett's case, to a neat 1930s semi in Wordsworth Drive, Cheam, on the Surrey border.

Mr Duckett is the embodiment of the fear of redundancy that stalks the clerical employees of our suburban streets. His working life has been devoted to providing a secure environment for his wife, Elaine, and their three children: the best education, the little luxuries in life and, above all, stability.

As Ben, 20, Sam, 17, and 15-year-old Elizabeth embark on their careers, he cautions them against investing all their aspirations in a single employer. "Nobody gives jobs for life now. Everybody is on contract or working through an agency."

They have been quick to absorb the obvious lessons from their father's fate, and are keen to develop marketable skills which would be attractive to a range of potential employers throughout their working lives, or will enable them to be self-employed.

"What keeps coming back to me is that when I left school it did not matter what job I did," Mr Duckett says. "If you did not like it or someone was offering more money you just walked around the corner and got another one." And that was precisely the pattern he followed until, as he says, "the alarm bells started ringing". The demands of his family and his natural wish to bring them up free from the anxiety of potential unemployment led him to a paternalistic employer.

"I took the job because it would see me through until I was 60. In those days the terms and conditions with a low mortgage were very attractive. I just wish I had heard the alarm bells in banking."

In 1977 Mr Duckett joined Williams and Glyn's on the clearing side in the City. By the time he was made redundant at the age of 45, along with 40 or so others, it had become the Royal Bank of Scotland, and he was earning around £25,000 and had a mortgage of £45,000 at a preferential rate and the prospect of a reasonable pension.

He left with a redundancy payment

> 'I took the job because it would see me through until I was 60'

of £24,000 but his mortgage rate will steadily increase over five years until it matches the customer rate. He is fortunate in that his house is worth more than £100,000, although that is £30,000 less than at the height of the housing boom.

"For the moment we can keep the house, but we still have to find the money to pay the mortgage. Others are in a much worse position and have to sell their homes, even though nobody would choose to sell now."

However, there is still the nagging worry of how to pay for a long old age and help out the children when necessary. His short-term contract working for the banking union Bifu ends in November.

"It is an enormous blow to be told you are redundant. I have the children to think about, and even at 20 they can't afford to live on their own, so it all falls on to the family."

Sam, who leaves grant-maintained John Fisher School in Purley, Surrey, this summer after taking A levels in mathematics, English and geography, is toying with the idea of going to university. But he is loath to take on the financial burden alone, and has applied for a Ford scheme which would sponsor him through his studies.

"I encouraged him to go," says his father. "But there is no way that I could afford to send him." Nor does Sam wish to start working life saddled with a student loan when the job prospects for graduates are no better than for school leavers. He already does part-time work in the local Sainsbury's to pay his way.

"He is looking around at the schemes companies offer for technicians and undergraduates. He needs qualifications which he can take from employer to employer. So many jobs these days are on contract, and nothing lasts for ever."

Ben has found that to be true. He is currently earning £150 a week doing manual work, but wants to consolidate his qualifications in landscape gardening by working for a reputable firm before one day taking the risk of setting up his own business.

Neither son ever considered banking as an option. With a forecast of one in five jobs disappearing over the next five years, on top of the 20 per cent already lost in the financial sector, they have both rejected clerical work in favour of developing specialised skills.

Elizabeth is just beginning to sift through the mountain of career advice from her parents, brothers, St Philomena's Catholic High School for Girls, and the media. She feels fortunate in having an affinity with children and at present is determined to work with them.

"I know what I want to do," she states with the assurance reserved for the young. "I want to be a nanny." She cites flexibility and the freedom to choose her employer among the reasons for her decision. While she might yet change her mind, one thing is certain. "I am not going to work for a bank," she says flatly.

Officer, gentleman and movie star

For Douglas Fairbanks Jr acting seems more a duty than a vocation. **Julia Llewellyn Smith** meets a legend

Douglas Fairbanks Jr is a relic from another age: an age when movie stars had smooth black hair, piercing eyes and luxuriant moustaches and spent most of their careers swinging across castle battlements and crushing swooning maidens to their chests. When Fairbanks, 85, was a boy, films were still silent: action spoke louder than words and cinema audiences would cheer at the mere sight of his swashbuckling father, his diminutive stepmother Mary Pickford and their next-door neighbour Charlie Chaplin.

The Fairbanks ménage was the undisputed royalty of Hollywood, and Junior was the crown prince. Meeting him today makes me feel as a journalist might interviewing Prince William after the dissolution of the monarchy. The world has been transformed, but Fairbanks, dressed immaculately and speaking in the refined staccato of the early talkies, is a gentleman. He even bares the faintest trace of a snow-white moustache.

A true gallant, he knows that if you can find nothing good to say, say nothing. Of the much vilified Joan Crawford, his first wife, he comments: "She was a very hard worker, very intense, always working on her self-development." Obsessive, I suggest. Fairbanks's blue eyes narrow slyly. "I don't want to talk about that and you don't either, although it's your job."

While quick to praise others, he is overwhelmingly self-deprecating. "I'm not proud of anything much, except my children," he says, you suspect sincerely.

Such diffidence could get tiring, a fact which the actor's third wife, Vera, is fully aware of. Tall, with dark hair and tinted glasses, Vera slips into the hotel suite where we are talking, introduces herself and sits in uninvited through the interview. She looks no more than 40, although logic suggests she is nearer 60, and is wonderfully supportive of her husband.

"You must be proud of your war record, I say to Fairbanks, while discussing the second volume of his autobiography, *A Hell of a War*. No, no, says Fairbanks. Vera interjects: "This is the most modest man you are ever going to meet — he shies away from praise." Fairbanks giggles. "Mrs Patrick Campbell once heard someone say of someone 'She's so modest' and replied (upper-class baritone) 'Yes, my dear, but she's got a lot to be modest about'. So do I."

"No you don't," tuts Vera. "I was telling someone the other day he did his military service from the heart, not because of any accolades." And so the conversation goes. Vera tells me how they went to the White House recently and Douglas wore his medals. "Schwarzkopf was the only person with the same amount."

"But he had important ones," says her husband.

"Never mind. You had as many as he did."

"It's quality that counts, not quantity, dear."

"No," retorts Vera, somewhat missing the point. "You and the general were neck and neck."

"Oh hush."

"I don't think there's a country that you don't have a medal from."

"Guatemala?" giggles Fairbanks.

What Vera lacks in irony she makes up for in accuracy. While her husband is understandably hazy on some details of his long life ("How did I meet my second wife? I don't know. I'd have to look it up in my book"), she is ever ready with fact sheets, CVs and lists of his 80 or so films which he consults before declaring that *The Prisoner of Zenda* and *Gunga Din* were his favourites. She tells me that Douglas has three daughters, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. "Thank you, darling," he says gratefully.



Fairbanks: diffident

She is uncharacteristically vague, however, when I ask how she and Fairbanks, who live in New York, met. "It was in Acapulco," she smiles. But when? Fairbanks's second wife, of 50 years, Mary Lee, died in 1988 and he married Vera in 1991. "It seems only yesterday," sighs Fairbanks.

"I don't really remember," says Vera. A few transatlantic calls reveal it was 30 years ago.

Fairbanks's amiability (the writer Clemence Dane once said that his problem was "he likes everything he sees and he sees everything") combined with a flagging memory could have produced the blandest of memoirs. However, his book is surprisingly entertaining, especially the first, prewar, section when he has affairs with Marlene Dietrich and Gertrude Lawrence, hobnobs with Noël Coward and the British Royal Family and was best friends with Laurence Olivier and David Niven.

Fairbanks drifted among them, but the early chapters paint a portrait of a man trying to move out of his father's dashing shadow. His parents divorced when he was nine and his relationship with his father was awkward and uncommunicative until shortly before his death in 1939.

He tells pathetically how as a boy he mistook both Chaplin and Pickford for other children when he met them. "Chaplin was the only one who would go down the hill in my wagon with me"; while Mary won his heart by playing with his toy trains. "I couldn't understand why a little girl like that would want to marry my father."

Acting seems to have been more of a duty than a vocation and he pushed to go to war as early as possible. He missed D-Day and admits his part in the liberation of Sicily was "a smidgen more than minimal". He won't write a sequel, he says, because everything after the war was an anticlimax. "He wrote the book all by himself," says Vera. "In another life he would have certainly been a writer." For once, you don't want to tell her to hush.

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Alan Coren



■ This could be the beginning of a beautiful comradeship . . .

Picture this. It is fetid midnight in a flyblown backstreet shebeen in old Ankara, pungent with the variegated miasma of rotgut, hashish, boiled offal, stale pommade, periodontal ruin, and old dog. At one end of the cellar, on an oildrum dais, an ageing belly-dancer arrhythmically shifts her various lumps about, as if a hummock of dough were being kneaded by invisible hands, to the tinny cackle of a wind-up gramophone and the contrapuntal clock of worry-bead. Above the dozen rickety tables, sporadic glow-worms seem to flicker, but they are only the wonky gold teeth of the barrel-bodied patrons, catching, as they grin, the scant ochre light of bottled candle.

What are they grinning at? They are grinning at a demure blonde Welshwoman standing at the bar and nervously thumbing her phrasebook in search of the Turkish for a small pot of Earl Grey and a toasted teacake. They are grinning because she has a red rose in her lapel, and when a woman wears a red rose in Turkey it means, as all sophisticated travellers know, only one thing. But she is not a sophisticated traveller: she is wearing the red rose because she is the Labour member for Cynon Valley, and goes nowhere without it. That is Ann Clwyd's way.

It will not help her here. Already, the barman is nervously taking down his mirror, muttering "Of all the arak joints in all the towns all over the world, she had to walk into mine," because he knows that Clwyd, though he could never pronounce it, *spells trouble. The clientele is pushing back* its chairs. Some are tossing coins. Some are drawing lots. Several are wrapping their beads around their enormous knuckles.

But stay! Suddenly, the entrance's hanging plastic strips fly apart, as through them strides a riveting cynosure. Beneath his sola topi, strong spectacles jut; from the pocket of his bush shirt poke four nasty-looking ballpoints; in his right hand he carries, deceptively loosely, his service clipboard. For this is none other than Indiana Cousins MP, known by every lowlife from Tangiers to Macao as a former member of Wallsend Borough Council. He cups Ms Clwyd's trembling elbow in his strong pink palm, and, as the ragged curtains of black moustache drop sullenly over the glow-worms, bears her through the cheated mob to freedom. It is only when they are outside that he murmurs: "You crazy little fool, you might have got us both killed!"

Why do I invite you to picture this? Because that is precisely what Mr Cousins invited, after yesterday's tragic sackings. "I could not leave Turkey without Ms Clwyd," he declared in defence of his scorning of the Whips. "I felt obliged to protect her in a dangerous part of the world."

And, in so declaring, brilliantly — dare one say mischievously? — he left his sacker staring into an enormous can of worms. For what was this if not the very cleft itself of New Labour's dichotomy? Its leader had just embarked upon perhaps his only affirmative action, viz. positive discrimination in favour of female Labour candidates in order, some *might say undemocratically, to rig the* House of Commons in distaff favour, against the ambitions of many aspirant male Labour candidates. Yet here was a prominent member of the unreconstructed Left steadfastly maintaining that all those women MPs couldn't be left to wander this horrid world without a big strong chap at their side.

Now, under what pass in politics for *normal circumstances, this would be settled* with no more blood shed than Mr Cousins's: the sacking would have the twin benefit of asserting the Leader's grit, while simultaneously mollifying outraged feminism. But New Labour is a bipolar beast, a Push-Me-Pull-You desperate to close its other set of teeth gently but firmly over the neck of Middle England and, growling support for traditional values, carry it off to its lair. And what could more appeal to back-to-basics fans than the notion that New Labour was a home fit for heroes prepared to stand up to all that Johnny Turk could throw at them to protect the honour of British womanhood?

Mr Blair has been set a problem. And whether Jim Cousins has helped him restore the Lost Ark to his wilderness party or consigned it once more to the Temple of Doom, who dares with any confidence predict?

Without policies that look to the future, Tory promises of recovery are worthless, says **Gordon Brown**

We need investment, not hollow tax cuts

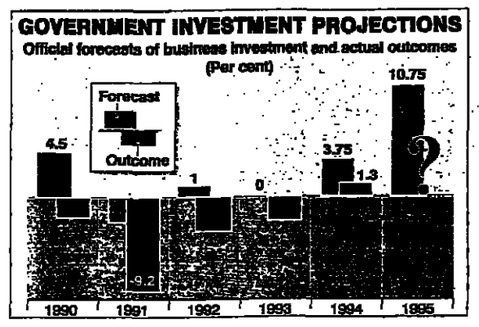
When taxes go up tomorrow for the 20th time since 1992, the electorate can be sure of only one thing. The only tax cut they have actually seen in the past three years is a Labour tax cut — the reduction in VAT on fuel from 17½ per cent to 8 per cent.

But Mr Major has done the cause of tax cutting no service by pronouncing on tax rates three years ahead, irrespective of the state of the economy. It is exactly the same mistake that he made before the last election. It is the action of a desperate Prime Minister, acting not because he can predict the economic cycle but simply because of the electoral cycle, matching a stop-go economic policy with a stop-go tax policy.

Sustainable tax cuts depend on sustainable growth, which in turn requires high and rising levels of investment. The unresolved question about the current state of the economy is why investment is failing to recover from the recession, while Britain's investment is so much lower than those of our competitors.

For investment is the key to economic growth. It is no surprise that over the past 15 years, Britain has had both the slowest average growth rate and the lowest level of investment of any of our competitors. Only an investment-led recovery can deliver the growth and tax revenues which Britain needs to rebuild our public services, and reduce the tax burden on ordinary tax payers.

But an investment-led recovery is precisely what the United Kingdom is not experiencing. Investment has started to rise later, and at a slower pace, than in either of the last two recoveries. No wonder that the Bank of England, in its latest *Inflation Report*, noted that the economy was running against capacity constraints, and that low levels of investment pose a grave threat to the sustainability of recovery.



The fact is that the UK's wealth generating base remains too small to sustain anything other than sluggish growth without endemic inflationary problems. Indeed, the fact that the Government was forced to raise interest rates so early in the economic cycle, before consumers had even begun to see living standards recover, shows how weak the UK economy has become.

This is the reason why the Government's tax-cut promises will ring hollow this week in the minds of consumers and businesses alike. Households, seeing their living standards crushed by rising taxes and charges and stagnant real wages, know that this is not a sufficiently broad-based recovery.

But it is the fears of British business and their caution about investing in Britain's long term future which pose the real danger. Hearing ministers boast about the economy, you would think not only that investment has been booming but that some kind of "miracle" is under way. "The best set of economic circumstances for 30 years," is how the Prime Minister described the economy — although he made a similar boast back in 1988.

But look at the facts. Manufacturing investment has grown by a mere 3 per cent since the bottom of the recession. At the same point in the recovery of the early 1980s it had grown by 31 per cent, and by 21 per cent in the mid-1970s. The picture is even worse for private sector investment as a whole: it had not grown at all by the end of last year. In the early 1980s it was up 18 per cent at this stage of the recovery, and by 19 per cent in the mid-1970s.

So the Government's talk of a virtuous investment-led recovery is still just talk. In the US, it is a reality — 30 per cent of the rise in US output since the trough is due to higher investment, according to the Bank of England. In Britain by contrast the bank shows that falling investment has actually reduced GDP growth by 1 per cent.

Even in the recovery of the early 1980s, investment started to rise consistently after four quarters of recovery, and while business investment did rise in the final quarter of last year (three years after the trough of the recession), it had fallen in the previous three quarters.

Investment will still be lagging behind the last two recoveries, even if the Treasury's forecast of a 10 per cent rise in business investment this year materialises. But the Government has forecast much higher investment than actually occurred in every one of the past five years, as the chart shows.

Why is business so wary about delivering the levels of investment which are needed to sustain growth and keep inflation in check? Part of the problem is the shortage of skills, which is a growing constraint on expansion, while high levels of long-term interest rates are increasing the cost of new investment.

But the real constraint on business investment is the Conservative Government itself. It is this Government which has failed to invest sufficiently in our skills and infrastructure, and it is this Government which has delivered the two deepest recessions since the Second World War, punctuated by a short-lived inflationary boom.

Households and companies alike need stability in macro-economic and tax policy, and a Government which can play its proper role in encouraging investment in skills and infrastructure. Instead the Government is spreading propaganda about tax cuts to come while businesses and voters are facing *rising taxes and high interest rates* today. No wonder they doubt this Government's motives.

Tax and fiscal policy must be driven by economic reality. The performance of the economy is the benchmark against which any tax pledges must be judged. Only a government which can deliver a strong economy with high levels of investment in industry, commerce, skills and infrastructure can credibly claim to offer both improved public services and sustainable tax cuts for lower and middle-income Britain.

The author is Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer and Member of Parliament for Dunfermline East.

Underneath, they're just like us

Bill Clinton and John Major may have their differences, but America and Britain are still blood brothers

Simon Jenkins

A British Prime Minister has been in Washington. Praise be. Special Relationship watchers can come out of hiding and blink briefly in the daylight. Like Chuzzlewit's relatives, they call each other after long silences and ask after the old fool's health. They tut-tut and frown and assert that it can't be long now. Bosnia was "a catastrophe". The Gerry Adams affair was "terminal". The VE-Day snub was "significant". They note that France was granted a smile. Germany is believed to be much in favour. Of course the Far East is bound to get a lion's share. It is all very sad, so unlike the happy days of Churchill, Attlee, Macmillan, Thatcher . . .

But a Prime Minister is a Prime Minister for all that. If President Clinton prefers to watch a basketball game rather than greet John Major, so be it. His National Security Adviser, Tony Lake, flattered the British press with a "rare" weekend briefing and parroted those hoary old saws, "intelligence *and security co-operation*, the Falklands and the Gulf War". I wonder where the Special Relationship watchers would be without them. Down they come from the shelf on each Anglo-American visit. Clinton and Major embrace each other and murmur "intelligence and security co-operation". Tears well up as they repeat "the Falklands and the Gulf". The Gerry Adams affair — a stunning snub to an ally — is supposedly forgotten, as is Bosnia and VE-Day and a dozen other items of transatlantic contention. The relationship is declared in good health and the British Embassy throws an even better party than usual.

There is of course no special relationship between Britain and America. There is something deeply obscure called American foreign policy, and there is something deeply strong called the Anglo-American cultural tie. They are wholly distinct phenomena, coming together rather hesitantly only in world wars. At present neither Britain nor America has a foreign policy detectable to the naked eye, so there is not much point in talking about one. Bill Clinton meets John Major is like Forrest Gump meets the Madness of King George: a confused guy with a box of chocolates and a lost soul whose aides are competing to prove him dotty.

Ever since Attlee's Government decided Washington was a tin man with a heart of gold. London has not been able to cope with America's shambolic view of the world. This week President Clinton wants new sanctions on Libya, for no clear reason. He is still well disposed towards Russia despite Chechenia and is pro-Turk as well as pro-Kurd. Next week this may change. After the Somalian debacle, America affirmed it would avoid all such ventures in future (as it did after Beirut). Now Mr Clinton has tasted a sort of triumph in Haiti. It looked and felt good. So who knows? He may raise the curtain on his re-election campaign with a quick Bosnian bombing adventure.

If so, Britain will be called upon to play a vital role, for which Douglas Hurd has already been rehearsed by the American Secretary of State, Warren Christopher. It is that *of spineless wimp incapable* of supplying European leadership as it did in the days of the Great Queen Thatcher (when it also failed, but we let that pass). As Mr Clinton's bombs incinerate any Bosnians in his way, Mr Major must express pained protest. This will help to portray the President as tough, unshakeable, the Great Peace Enforcer. Roosevelt reborn. There will follow a "crisis in relations with Britain" and then a "reconciliation" round some absurd camp fire with security men in plaid shirts.

Such diplomatic antics are at times so vapid as to beggar belief. They are the *millefeuilles* of Washington table talk. Britain is a mere character actor in the essentially domestic drama of American foreign policy. Unlike Ireland and Israel, Britain suffers from the great disadvantage of being a real foreign country.

Sure, there is a relationship. Lear had a relationship with his Fool. Sure, America will help if Britain really needs it. Sure, Britain will help if America really needs it. But "special" relationship? Get serious.

Yet step out of the gilded Washington cage and pass into a different world.



Anglo-Saxon attitudes: Forrest Gump meets mad King George

Beyond the pleasantries of diplomacy remains the robust constancy of America's Anglo-Saxon political and commercial culture. The House Speaker and current Alternative President, Newt Gingrich, goes on national television on Friday to boast the first 100 days of his *Contract with America*. His programme is highly specific, and familiar to Britons. It is for less government intervention, for devolution, a reduction in welfare entitlements, balanced budgets and action on crime and the family. This is Lady Thatcher vintage 1987-9. Gingrichism is a reassertion of the anti-trust, free trade, individualistic capitalism which the French economist Michel Albert has rightly declared is a total contrast to the corporatist "Rhine" version favoured by Latin countries and Japan.

Mr Gingrich's *Contract with America* has little in common with the political outlook of the French, German or Italian Governments, or with the inhabitants of the Brussels Commission. His economy is not that of the corporations that run Japan. His enemies are the scions of America's ethnic politics, affirmative action for minorities, corporate lobbyists, government departments and a voracious public appetite for subsidised medicine. They are America's version of M Albert's corporatist capitalism. Mr Gingrich has his quirks and believes in the trauma of extremism to carry his *point. But the show he is trying to keep* on the road is the old Anglo-American democracy and the free market economy.

Of course Americans of other national backgrounds support such a campaign. But as Tocqueville noted, it was the British tradition that forged the American Constitution, both by example and by warning. That was why the British colonies were so different from the colonies of France or other European states — and more successful, in Tocqueville's view. That was why North America was not South America. Mr Gingrich's supporters frequently declare that their ambition is to succeed where President Reagan failed, in applying the principles of Thatcherism to American government.

This essentially cultural bond between Britain and America is growing closer rather than further apart. Britain is the biggest European investor in American property. Britons are, believe it or not, still the biggest legal immigrant nation into America. Enter any American office these days and you will hear an English accent — just as American accents are familiar in London offices. This operates far beyond the citadels of media and entertainment, where to be British in America is not really to be foreign.

The greatest bond of all is emerging from the industry expanding faster, I am told, *than any since the railway* boom of the last century: that of Internet technology. This promises to outstrip all previous computer phenomena, and is inducing near-hysteria in corporate headquarters. Jobs in banking and financial services are plummeting as millions of Americans prepare to go onto the net. Every home that now has a *television and a telephone will in time be* online to "all the information in the world", shopping, banking, hobbies, libraries and the booming discussion forums. The net's capacity to declare the worldwide "best buy" in anything could wipe out millions of salesmen. The Internet speaks English, and the country closest behind America in its development is Britain. The capacity of this innovation to bind together the English-speaking world is beyond exaggeration.

I believe that Anglo-Saxon capitalism, Anglo-Saxon democracy and Anglo-Saxon language still form the bedrock of America's political culture. They are there whenever the hurricane sweeps the surface soil away, whenever the noise dies down. But of course the subject is far too delicate to mention. Reticence, with just a touch of smugness, is another Anglo-Saxon value.

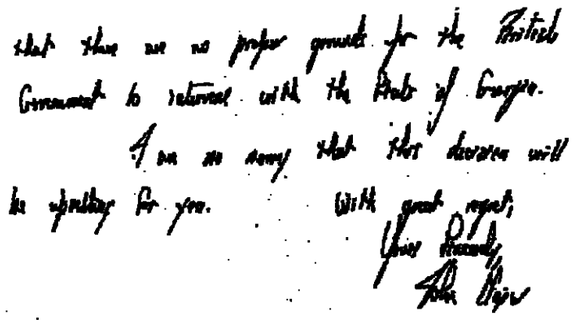
Major's fist

THE LETTER from John Major to the mother of Nicholas Ingram explaining why he cannot intervene in American judicial procedures has given graphologists a rare opportunity to study the prime ministerial school of handwriting.

Experts have been poring over the letter, which was published yesterday, to examine the method that lies behind the man. It appears that the Prime Minister has yet to master fully the "joined-up" technique, and there are suggestions that he needs to study harder.

The most authoritative view comes from the City, where graphologists are commonly employed by financial institutions to vet job applicants. One leading player talked of an angular writing style distinguished by its sloping "y" and "g", and an "f" which is curiously inconsistent.

Another, who vets applications for a number of merchant banks, had firm views as well. "It shows he is very ambitious and determined and all that. But it suggests he is not as intellectually evolved as other people. He does not have a rounded intellect."



Clue to the Prime Minister's character: the letter to Anne Ingram

The graphologist admitted that she would need to see the original letter to make a full assessment of Mr Major's character — pressure points in this game are a sure indication of inner defects.

But the style of Major's scribble is not unknown in her world of City types. "A lot of bankers are like this," she explained. And Major as we know, worked with Standard Chartered for some years.

Trail blazer

THE BBC was braced for complaints from politicians about its *Panorama* interview with John Major, which Scottish judges stopped from being broadcast because of its potential influence in the forthcoming local elections. But it could hardly have expected a complaint from David Dimbleby, the man who conducted the interview.

On the day before the programme was broadcast, however, Dimbleby was apparently on the blower to the BBC, complaining with justification that he wasn't mentioned in a trailer for his interview.

The corporation couldn't do anything about it because Labour's foreign affairs spokesman, Robin Cook, had already complained that the trailer resembled a Tory party political broadcast. And any alterations would have been seen as kowtowing to Labour.

Run in

A MOVING tale of blood, sweat and tears has emerged from the London Marathon at the weekend. It concerns one of the speediest septuagenarians on the planet, who claims he was cheated of the triumph he deserved.

John Keston, 70, ran all 26 miles and 385 yards of the marathon in 3hrs 1min 35secs. The fastest recorded time for a 70-year-old is 3hrs 1min 14secs. And Keston believes he could have beaten the record had he not been tripped by another runner between the 13th and 14th mile.

"Somebody pushed me from behind as he was trying to get at some water, then I stumbled and got tripped up. It was awful. It took me 30 to 40 seconds to recover and I missed the record because of it." The British Athletic Federation can only sympathise: "But if it's any consolation, he wiped ten minutes off the fastest British time," says its road-running statistician David Walsh.

Last request

THE FUNERAL of Kenny Everett, the wacky disc jockey who died yesterday, will be a private affair for family and close friends. There will be heavenly music if Radio 4's *Desert Island Discs* is anything to go by. He said that he would like to head Upstairs accompanied by an ethereal work by Puccini.

"I've chosen Puccini's *Symphonic Prelude* because it's just the most beautiful record I have ever heard," he told Sue Lawley. "If I ever do die, as I'm hoiked aloft in a ray of God's lovely sunbeam I would like this to be on the gramophone."

Cover point

AFTER THE curse of *Hello!*, whereby celebrities seem immediately to come a cropper after featuring in the gushing glossy, we have the curse of *Playfair Cricket Annual*. It appears that anyone featured on the front cover of the pocket book in Spring invariably suffers a dismal season.

Darren Gough: jinxed?

It was Michael Atherton's turn to grace the cover last year. He soon became embroiled in a row over ball tampering. Yesterday, when the 1995 edition was published, Darren Gough was on the cover.

"Rumours have grown during recent years concerning the jinx imposed by being portrayed on this annual," said the editor, Bill Frindall. "The arrival in Melbourne of a proof of this cover preceded by barely an hour the injury which ended Gough's tour: Easy payments can be arranged for players not wanting to be profiled."

Snap shut

AS IF John Major needed reminding about the high-profile visit recently to America of a certain Irishman. When he went up Capitol Hill yesterday to meet members of the House of Representatives' international relations committee, he was politely requested by the Republican chairman, Benjamin Gilman, to sign the visitors' book.

Whose photograph should Major find staring up at him when he opened the book but Gerry Adams's? "I think you know this fellow," suggested Gilman — for he had welcomed the Sinn Fein President last month. Calmly turning to a fresh page, Major replied through gritted teeth: "Indeed I do."

● *The trend for upper-crust car boot sales continues. The latest line in stately bargains will be held at Burghley House, Lincolnshire, in June by Lady Victoria Leatham. Among those combing their attics for heirlooms to discard on behalf of the Red Cross will be the Countess of Yarborough and Lady Caroline Ogilvy.*

P·H·S

OUT OF COURT

A bad day for the BBC: a worse day for Labour reputations

The Labour and Liberal Democrat parties did a deep disservice yesterday to the cause of independent broadcasting, self-regulation and freedom of speech. And then their representatives stood outside a Scottish court and boasted of what great benefits they were bringing to those causes. A certain amount of cant and hypocrisy can perhaps be forgiven in a politician around election day: yesterday the Shadow Scottish Secretary, George Robertson, consumed his ration of forgiveness for the rest of time.

Mr Robertson told BBC News that the question at issue was not one of "censorship" but of "partiality" — an argument that showed only the short span of his horizons. What he described as a "major day for the independence of the BBC" was a day on which a precedent of prior censorship was set, a day on which the judicial process was allowed to interfere in an editorial decision by political journalists at the BBC. Mr Robertson is entitled to his view that the broadcasting of the *Panorama* programme so close to the Scottish elections was an editorial error. Many might agree with him. But the freedom to make bad editorial decisions demands at least as much protection as the freedom to make good ones. The court should have had no part here — and Mr Robertson's party, if it makes any claim to responsibility for office, should not have called upon it to do so.

For practical purposes, the political censors have won this battle. It would be a serious defeat for freedom of expression were they to win the war. If the court's interim edict remains upheld, this case could set a precedent for politicians the length and breadth of the land to take broadcasters to court whenever they believe — as members of all parties have alleged down the years — that they are not being "impartially" treated.

The duty of impartiality is no light matter in the history of the BBC. It is enshrined in its Charter and integral to the trust reposed in it by the public. The BBC's statutes and internal regulations strike a careful balance between the requirements of freedom and its acknowledged responsibilities. But getting the balance right in practice cannot ever be purely mechanistic, a matter of counting the minutes allotted to politicians or to different viewpoints. Because judgment must enter in, the BBC's freedom is meaningless unless it includes the freedom to judge wrongly. Observance of BBC guidelines is monitored by an internal committee of advisers to the Director-General, who are independent of programme producers. In the *Panorama* case, these self-regulatory procedures were followed. There is also an appeals procedure for the public, with the BBC's board of governors at its apex.

Had Labour and the Liberal Democrats followed this route, the board might well have agreed that the BBC got this particular decision wrong. Given the great sensitivity of Scots to London's say over programming, the BBC's political antennae should have been more alert. Many Scots firmly believe that the BBC would never have offered Mr Major the *Panorama* slot just before English elections — a complaint to which the BBC has yet to give a convincing response.

These arguments do not affect the more important issue of principle, which is that to have had recourse to the courts over a single programme was a step out of all proportion to the offence. "Impartiality" is a quicksand for lawyers and the law should stay clear of it. It is not certain that the BBC's internal guidelines are justiciable at all: even granted its general duty of impartiality, these are internal house rules. What ought to be clear is that for the general duty to be sufficient ground for a legal challenge, there should be clear evidence of political distortion or persistent and concerted editorial bias, sustained over a period of time. Even then, this should not be made an opportunity for prior censorship.

The energy politicians put into accusing the BBC of bias is equalled only by the zeal with which they naturally seek to exploit its airwaves for party political advantage. That is good reason for setting the threshold for judicial intervention high enough to forestall political interference with individual programmes and editorial decisions. This week's suit forms part of a disturbing growth of support among MPs for statutory controls of the press and a tighter rein on broadcasters. The print and broadcast media have a firm interest in effective self-regulation. This week, the public have had a foretaste of the alternative. Whatever their views on the *Panorama* programme, they should recoil from remedies that would be far worse than the disease.

TO SAVE BURUNDI

Towards a common action plan for an African emergency

Burundi and Rwanda, the blood-soaked twins of Central Africa, will mark a bitter anniversary tomorrow: their Presidents perished together, a year ago to the day, when their plane was shot down near the Rwandan capital, Kigali. In Rwanda, the most savage example of documented genocide since Cambodia's Year-Zero ensued, as the Hutu extremist interim Government orchestrated the slaughter of one in every two of the country's Tutsi minority.

The huge scale of the Rwandan emergency has deflected attention from the tense situation in Burundi, which has the same explosive ethnic mix of majority Hutu and minority Tutsi. This crisis cannot now be ignored. This week, an estimated 400 Hutus were massacred by a combination of Burundian soldiers and local Tutsi militiamen; diplomats and aid workers fear the worst.

As if Burundi's own ethnic equation were not complex enough, there are in the country some 200,000 Hutu refugees from Rwanda. These Hutus, who fled to Burundi fearing retribution from the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front Government, are now attempting to escape to Tanzania from Burundi's Tutsi-controlled Army. The Tanzanian authorities, understandably, have closed their borders: the country simply cannot cope with even more refugees than it has already. The logical place for the Rwandan Hutus to go is of course to Rwanda — yet their successful repatriation will not be possible until the grip in which they are held by Hutu extremists is broken.

Burundi, unlike Rwanda in its frenzied months of genocide, is governed by a fragile alliance of moderates under a Hutu President and Tutsi Prime Minister: the extremist forces of either tribe do not have the same degree of state patronage as the Hutu extremists, the *interahamwe*, did in Rwanda. But President Ntibantunganya has little control over his almost entirely Tutsi army, which has been known to act in murderous tandem with civilian Tutsi death squads.

A military coup could therefore mean that today's serious communal violence could spread into wholesale massacres and civic collapse. There is still time to prevent that. International efforts to rebuild Rwanda must be pursued with increased vigour, so that Rwandan Hutu refugees can leave Burundi at an early date. As for Burundi, the Convention of Government — signed by 12 political parties on September 10, 1994, in order to establish institutions of "consensus" — must receive the formal backing of the UN Security Council. There is urgent need, also, to rebuild the country's judicial system and to post UN human rights monitors.

Of equal importance is the need to strengthen greatly the role and numbers of the military observers from the Organisation of African Unity. There are a mere 46 present today. The West has spent an estimated $1 billion in aid to rebuild Rwanda after that country's disintegration. Cannot even a fraction of that sum be spent today on precautionary measures to shore up order and protect the people of Burundi?

STRICTLY OLYMPIAN

Ballroom dancers may soon be quickstepping for Gold

To most sports enthusiasts, the possibility that ballroom dancing may become an Olympic event must seem nothing short of heretical. The International Dance Sports Federation has fought a long campaign to be included in the Summer Games, alongside other probationary activities such as roller skating and trampolining. The Sydney Olympics in 2000 may now feature the samba, the quickstep and the foxtrot.

The Lycra catsuits, skimpy dresses and suburban kitsch of formation dancing certainly do jar with the gladiatorial image of the Olympics. Yet grace and co-ordination have been an important part of the modern Games, as the inclusion of archery and shooting from its beginnings illustrates. Figure-skating has been part of the tournament since 1908 and ice dancing since 1976. More recently, rhythmic gymnastics and synchronised swimming have been added. Such sports may not be to everyone's taste but they do not, as some claim, undermine the principles upon which the modern Olympic movement was founded.

Equally, none should doubt the athleticism of first-class dancers. Part of the explanation for the pastime's phenomenal popularity in the last ten years has been its attraction as an entertaining, sociable form of keep-fit. To learn the tango is far more exciting than step-exercises or aerobics.

Nor does ballroom dancing lack competitive spirit. As the viewers of *Come Dancing* well know, its glittering prizes inspire fierce rivalry and hard-fought contests. In Oxford and Cambridge, it is already a half-Blue sport. A pasodoble may not force human beings to the limits of endurance in quite the same way as a 100-metre sprint or weight-lifting. But it requires no less determination and dedication. The combination of glamour, suspense and skill — qualities brilliantly showcased in the film *Strictly Ballroom* — has made formation dancing an enormously popular spectator event.

Britons, finally, have patriotic reasons for supporting this suggestion. Ballroom dancing has become a truly international pastime, as popular with the Japanese Imperial Family as it is with the Czech middle classes. But its modern origins lie in this country where it developed after the war in Mecca ballrooms. Five million people a week go ballroom dancing in Britain. The studios of Streatham and Penge are full of devoted competitive dancers who would give their favourite spangled shirt for the opportunity to be an Olympian. Offered the chance, they may yet lead the nation to sequinned glory.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Scottish judges' ruling and politics on the BBC

From Mr John Pinks

Sir, Scottish judges prevented *Panorama* from being shown last night in Scotland (report, April 4). The banning of this programme has been headline news on BBC news programmes all this morning. Forget this country, forget the rest of the world. The BBC has been insulted. We *must* want to know about it *ad nauseam*.

How do we curb this monster that presumes far too much?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN PINKS,
Mills Folly, Burnham Beeches,
Buckinghamshire.
April 4.

From Miss Beryl M. Goldsmith

Sir, The little tartan toadies of the Labour and Liberal Democrat parties have grossly insulted the Scottish people, as well as citizens of north east England. Why not also call for a ban on press reports of the Prime Minister's interview? Or cannot Scots read?

Biggest joke of all is Mr Alex Salmond demanding parity with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

Yours faithfully,
BERYL M. GOLDSMITH,
34 Thomas More House,
Barbican, EC2.
April 4.

From Mr Tim Symonds

Sir, It is inconceivable to me that the BBC should offer a stage-managed, high-prestige slot like *Panorama* during an election period without at once creating a fair balance for the contending parties.

This is not an intrusion on the BBC's privilege to decide what is fair and balanced. It simply takes into account the frenetic, highly-charged, extremely competitive atmosphere we need in a democracy to enable the party system to function within certain important rules.

Yours sincerely,
TIM SYMONDS,
The Lodge, Conock Manor, Wiltshire.

From Mrs Eslyn Craven

Sir, Not having seen all the manifestos of the candidates in the local election on Thursday, I have not yet decided where to cast my vote. However, to suggest that a 40-minute interview with the Prime Minister, dealing with national and international affairs, would influence the Scottish electorate's voting intentions, is to imply an ignorance of the issues involved and a naivety on our part which beggars belief.

Yours faithfully,
ESLYN CRAVEN,
Keepers Cottage,
Lanrick, Doune, Perthshire.

From Mr Hubert de Castella

Sir, Would not a suitable compromise be for the interview to go out in Scotland, but with the Prime Minister's words spoken by an actor — or might this be seen as giving further advantage to the Conservatives?

Yours etc,
HUBERT de CASTELLA,
Cedar House, Newton Solney,
Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire.

From Mrs Sandra Lewin

Sir, If John Major is allowed to appear on *Panorama* before an election, isn't that giving unfair advantage to the Labour Party?

Yours faithfully,
SANDRA LEWIN,
3 Bourne End Road,
Northwood, Middlesex.

From Mr Nigel Hollingdale

Sir, The answer for the BBC in the present controversy seems simple — no party political broadcasts. The result: perfect "balance" for the politicians; significantly improved programming; and general relief on both sides of the border.

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL C. HOLLINGDALE,
1 Racecourse View,
Lyndhurst, Hampshire.

From Sir Neil Pritchard

Sir, I do not think the Tories are specially picked on by broadcasters. Neither do I think that all is as well as the heading on your leading article suggested ("When Ministers whinge and memos wing, all must be well", March 31). Politicians should not be allowed to get away with too much; and it would be nice to have misinformation corrected, evasions exposed, the truth revealed and so on. Instead presenters far too frequently indulge in petty, tendentious and repetitive efforts to make fifth-form debating points.

Presenters are not doing their job well, as Mr John Birt recently pointed out (article, February 8), to the anguished dismay of journalists.

Clarke and Heseltine have boisterous fun dealing with such interruptions: and it is equally good fun when Edward Heath simply goes burbling straight on (when this listener loudly applauds). But none of this contributes one little bit to the probing of politicians' policies and capabilities: it is merely to prove politicians' technique in handling this quiz show.

Yours sincerely,
NEIL PRITCHARD,
Little Garth, Daglingworth,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

From Mr R. M. Purcell

Sir, The Archdeacon of York (letter, March 30) defends the strong questioning style of John Humphrys and Jeremy Paxman. For many I imagine it is not so much the strength of their attacks but the daily hectoring censoriousness which has become tiresome and irritating. More seriously, I suspect that this unremitting self-righteous fault-finding by self-appointed tribunes of the people must contribute insidiously to our current lack of national self-confidence.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL PURCELL,
French Mill Cottage,
French Mill Lane,
Shaftesbury, Dorset.

From Miss M. E. Powling

Sir, I am very grateful to BBC presenters, like John Humphrys, who ask politicians questions which the electorate wish to have answered.

If those politicians are then pressed for an answer, which they frequently refuse to give and which they waste so much time evading, then the presenters should be praised not castigated.

Yours faithfully,
MARY E. POWLING,
6 Brook Lodge,
28 Lexden Road, Colchester, Essex.

London 'flagship' for African culture

From the Ambassador of the Republic of Mozambique and others

Sir, We write on behalf of high commissioners and ambassadors of African governments to the Court of St James's, in the hope that you will bring to the attention of your readers a major initiative to provide Africa with a cultural flagship in Europe.

For over 30 years the Africa Centre, situated in Covent Garden, London's cultural heartland, has informed the British public and visitors to London about African culture and society. The centre has recently adopted plans which will not only make this Grade II building financially viable but also revitalise its programmes.

The potential of a redeveloped and sustainable Africa Centre to promote African art culture and ideas was recognised by the Organisation for African Unity at its ministerial meeting last year, when it passed a resolution endorsing the centre's plans and calling for them to be supported. In 1991 and 1992 assistance from the governments of Nigeria, Botswana, Uganda, Zambia and Ghana provided the centre with the opportunity of a new lease of life.

The redevelopment plans provide for greatly improved facilities, including a conference centre, cinema, art galleries, meeting rooms, craft centre, bookshop, restaurant and dance hall, with office space to let.

In this year when Africa's art, dance, music, theatre, sport, literature and cinema will be celebrated on a scale never before experienced in Britain, during the forthcoming Africa 95 season, the case for an Africa Centre along the lines envisaged gains added weight. Its success will be very much to the credit both of Africa and the UK, and to the individual organisations which choose to support it.

Yours sincerely,
ARMANDO A. PANGUENE
(Ambassador of the Republic of Mozambique),
MOHAMED SHAKER
(Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt),
M. K. TSEKOA
(High Commissioner for the Kingdom of Lesotho),
c/o The Africa Centre,
38 King Street, WC2.
April 3.

Ban on landmines

From Mr T. G. Oliver, Assault Engineer, Royal Marines (retd)

Sir, The statement by the Director of the Mines Advisory Group, Mr Rae McGrath (letter, March 21), that Britain has never made non-detectable mines is inaccurate and misleading. Over the past 40 years there have been several such mines: the British No.6 anti-personnel mine, plastic and carrot-shaped; the "Red Elsie", diminutive but deadly; the ceramic, light anti-tank mine; and the plastic-bodied BAR mine.

All of these British mines, many of which are in use today, are designed to be "undetectable" with the simple removal of a metal detector-ring or plate. However, the meaning of the term "non-detectable" has changed in recent years with the advent of microwave technology (if you have access to this equipment).

Public naivety, fostered by such statements, is reflected in a subsequent letter (March 24) in which the writer states that a "non-detectable" mine would be the ultimate horror. Landmine warfare is a complex subject which requires serious elucidation.

In the meantime, the manufacture, deployment, clearance, and alleged recycling of mines appears to be a money-spinner for all concerned except the hapless victims of these evil weapons.

Yours faithfully,
G. OLIVER,
Sunnyside,
Raddenstile Lane, Exmouth, Devon.
April 3.

Sir William Hayter

From Sir David Lumsden

Sir, Generations of New College choristers will remember what came to be known, during Sir William Hayter's term as Warden, as "Warden's use" (obituary, March 30).

My time as organist and music fellow there (1959-76) coincided almost exactly with his as Warden. He loved music and knew a great deal about it, but could not abide the Elizabethan pronunciation of the word-ending -tion — eg, as in tempta-s-i-on. So adamant was he about this that I had to instruct the choir that whenever the Warden was present we must avoid all such pronunciations, quite a difficult assignment in some anthems and service settings, particularly without warning or rehearsal.

I considered it a very small price to pay in return for his loyal and vigilant support of the musical life of the college. It also kept the choir (and me) on our toes.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID LUMSDEN
(Vice-President,
Royal Academy of Music),
Melton House, Soham,
Cambridgeshire.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Recall of sexual abuse

From Mr Allen Esterson

Sir, In relation to the recent case in which the prosecution admitted that a woman's alleged memories of childhood sexual abuse by her father were fictitious, you report (March 29) that a recent inquiry by the British Psychological Society into false memories reported that most recovered memories were accurate when obtained without inappropriate pressure on the patient, and that nine out of ten accredited practitioners believed recovered memories were mostly accurate.

It is important to appreciate that this part of the British Psychological Society report was based on questionnaires recording the *beliefs* of some of the very people who are involved in therapy in which early memories are supposedly recovered.

It is unsurprising that therapists who have treated patients who have apparently recovered memories of early experiences should believe these memories to be generally authentic. What was not in evidence in the BPS report was any attempt to ascertain on what grounds the therapists based their views.

Again, the fact that these therapists implicitly disclaim the use of "inappropriate" methods is not necessarily of any great significance. While one presumes that they do not utilise the kind of pressures prevalent in some "recovered memory" therapies, are they in the best position to judge without prejudice whether their own methods are not without dangers, given the variety of ways that subtle influences may play a role in the therapist/patient relationship?

It is extraordinary that such an important element in the conclusions recorded by the BPS should rely on what is effectively little more than self-assessment by the practitioners it canvassed.

Yours faithfully,
ALLEN ESTERSON,
1a Cromwell Grove,
Hammersmith, W6.
April 2.

Star-struck

From Mr T. E. Baker

Sir, My wife and I, in common with Mrs Barbara Brill (letter, March 23), have nostalgic memories of Harold Pinter starring in the Hackney Downs/Dalston County 1948 production of *Romeo and Juliet*. For we first met when taking part in Joseph Brearley's colourful production and thus our two children and five grandchildren owe their existence to Brearley's infectious interest in English drama.

But that is not all. To this day my left knee bears the scar of a lunge by the youthful Romeo. Not with his vengeful rapier, however, but with his football boot, whilst we were relaxing between rehearsals at our Lower Edmonton sports ground. Your further correspondent, Professor Supple, alias Mercutio (letter, March 25), was keeping goal.

Yours faithfully,
TERRY BAKER,
153 Green Dragon Lane,
Winchmore Hill, N21.

Emergency beds

From Dr George Ashforth

Sir, During the Second World War, when I was a young doctor and needed emergency admission for a patient to a hospital, I could telephone the Voluntary Hospitals Emergency Bed Service, run by the Ministry of Health, and receive immediate information on bed availability in London (letters, March 14, 31, April 1).

It seems odd that in this age of computers accurate, nationwide information should not be available at the push of a button, and that a doctor in London requiring information for the urgent admission of a patient to a specialised unit should have to spend three quarters of an hour making 15 telephone calls, and ultimately to make arrangements for the patient to be flown to Leeds, when two suitable beds were available in London.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE ASHFORTH,
Stonehouse,
Merton, Bicester, Oxfordshire.

End of a dynasty

From Mr David Pierce

Sir, In a report on the Queen's tour of South Africa (March 27) you stated that the Prince Imperial of France was killed at Rorke's Drift. That battle took place on January 22-23, 1879. The Prince Imperial did not sail from Southampton until February 28.

He was, in fact, killed during Lieutenant-General Lord Chelmsford's second invasion of Zululand, on June 1, 1879, in an incident which caused the British considerable embarrassment. It was considered that the Prince should not have been allowed to accompany a mobile patrol on which there was any element of danger. He was, after all, not a member of the British Army but merely an "observer".

Disraeli's words — "A remarkable people these Zulus. They have conquered our generals, converted our bishops and put an end to a great European dynasty" — can therefore have only been made after the Prince's death, which brought the Napoleon dynasty to an end.

I have recently returned from visits to Isandhlwana and Rorke's Drift — a memorable and moving experience made more dramatic for me by the fact that I served with the 24th Regiment, by then the South Wales Borderers, in Aden in the 1960s.

The first battalion of the 24th and one company of the second were wiped out at Isandhlwana and one company of the second battalion won seven VCs at Rorke's Drift.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID PIERCE,
Spring Cottage, Wheal Frances,
Goonhavern, Truro, Cornwall.

Night at the opera

From the General Director of English National Opera

Sir, How ironic that your reporter (who was not even present at the British premiere of *Life with an Idiot*) should cobble together a factitious story (report, April 3) about a first-night "calamity" threatening ENO, the morning after the company triumphantly carried off the Olivier Award for the year's best opera production.

How blinkered of Rodney Milnes to pronounce that Jonathan Moore's production was "an important work heedlessly traduced" (Arts, April 3) when ten feet away from him on the opening night stood the work's co-creator Viktor Erofeyev, whose opinion he might have canvassed before rushing into print. Milnes's opinion is his own concern but let the librettist Erofeyev have the last word in a letter he has just written to Mr Moore:

I know that my piece could be done in many different ways, but your London production has its unique interpretation which I found very faithful to the spirit of the book.

I would like you to thank all the wonderful singers, whose voices I shall remember for a very long time. Please send the entire company — singers, musicians and staff — my very best wishes for great success with all the future performances in London and Scotland.

Yours sincerely,
DENNIS MARKS,
General Director,
English National Opera,
London Coliseum,
St Martin's Lane, WC2.
April 4.

Old acquaintance

From Mr Antony Chinneck

Sir, Squadron Leader Horsfall (letter, March 31) is not alone.

After you published a letter from me in November 1985 I was contacted by an old friend of my brother who, 13 years my senior, was killed in 1942. My father had been a guest at his parents' wedding in Cape Town in 1901 and on leaving school in 1925 he had joined the company for which my father worked and had been trained by him.

We had had no contact since 1939. Our home is now within two miles of his and we meet regularly for lunch.

Yours faithfully,
ANTONY CHINNECK,
40a Bedhampton Hill,
Bedhampton, Havant, Hampshire.

From Mr H. Ian Carlton

Sir, You were good enough to publish my letter of March 14 in defence of Perthshire's gun-dogs. My satisfaction at this was complemented by the subsequent receipt of a letter from an old shipmate to whom I was best man in 1956. Time, and many and frequent changes of address in UK and overseas, had resulted in our losing touch. Thanks to your pages we look forward to a substantial dram and reunion after 39 years.

Yours truly,
H. IAN CARLTON,
Croftlea, by Pitlochry, Perthshire.

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE

April 4: By Command of The Queen, Mr Philip Stroud (Deputy Lieutenant of West Sussex) was present at Gatwick Airport, London, this morning upon the Departure of the Governor-General of Antigua and Barbuda and bade farewell to His Excellency on behalf of Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE:

April 4: The Princess Royal, Patron, International Health Exchange, this evening gave a presentation at the Annual General Meeting, Royal College of Nursing, 20 Cavendish Square, London W1.

Mrs Timothy Holderness-Roddam was in the attendance.

Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, later attended a Private Appeal Dinner at Buckingham Palace.

CLARENCE HOUSE:

April 4: The Hon Mrs Rhodes has succeeded Dame Frances Campbell-Preston as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE

April 4: The Duke of Kent, President, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, this afternoon arrived at Gatwick Airport from Islamabad.

Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as Patron of SENSE, the National Deafblind and Rubella Association, will attend an education conference. Final Reports on the GEST Initiative for Deafblind Children, at Birmingham Metropole Hotel and Conference Centre, NEC Birmingham, at 10.15: as President of The Princess Royal Trust for Carers, will open the Lincolnshire Carers Centre at 1 Rauceby Terrace, Orchard Street, Lincoln, at 1.55; as President of the Royal Yachting Association, will attend the meeting of the RYA council at the Royal Thames Yacht Club at 4.15; and will attend a ceremony to receive the award of the Society of Apothecaries of London's Galen medal at Apothecaries' Hall at 7.00.

The Duchess of Kent, as patron, will attend a dinner of the "Not Forgotten" Association at the House of Lords at 7.50 to mark the association's 75th anniversary.

Dinners

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

Mr Paul Orchard-Lisle presided at the annual dinner of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Ms Catherine N. Alcock, president of the general practice division, was the principal guest.

Cardiff Business Club

The President of Cardiff Business Club, Sir Idwal Pugh, the High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, Mrs Joanna Cory, and the Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor J.R. Phillips, were present at a dinner held by the Club at the Royal Hotel, Cardiff last night. The guest speaker was Mr Michael Grade, Chief Executive, Channel Four Television Corporation. Mr Prys Edwards, Chairman S4C, presided.

Luncheons

HM Government

Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Defence, was the host yesterday at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government at Admiralty House in honour of Mr György Keleti, Hungarian Minister for National Defence.

Institute of Energy

Mr Tim Eggar, Minister for Energy and Industry, was the principal guest and speaker at the annual luncheon of the Institute of Energy, held yesterday at the Café Royal. Mr D.G. Jefferies, president, was in the chair.

Old Pauline Club

Air Chief Marshal Sir Lewis Hodges, presided at the "Earliest Vintage" reunion luncheon of the Old Pauline Club held yesterday St Paul's School. Admiral Sir John Treacher and Mr R S Baldock, High Master, also spoke.

Birthdays today

Professor John Albery, Master, University College, Oxford, 59; Miss Jane Asher, actress, 49; Mr Albert (Cubby) Broccoli, film producer, 86; Mr Michael Bryant, actor, 67; Mr James Buckley, chief executive, Baltic Exchange, 51; Mr A.R.F. Buxton, chairman, Barclays Bank, 56; Baroness Delacourt-Smith of Alteryn, 79; Mr Tom Finney, footballer, 73; Lady (Nigel) Fisher, founder, Women Caring Trust, 74; Dr John Gilbert, MP, 68; Mr Arthur Hailey, author, 75; Mr Nigel Hawthorne, actor, 66; Sir Douglas Henley, former Auditor General, 76; Professor Denis Lawton, former director, London University Institute of Education, 64; Admiral Sir Michael Livesay, former Admiral President, RN College Greenwich, 59; Professor Donald Lynden-Bell, astronomer, 60; Mr Robert E. McKee, former chairman and managing director, Conoco (UK), 49; Mr Stuart May, senior partner, Theodore Goddard, 58; Professor Peter Moore, former Principal, London Business School, 67; Mr Stanley Orme, MP, 72; Mr Gregory Peck, actor, 79; Miss Jennifer Penney, ballerina, 49; General Colin Powell, KCB, former chairman, American Joint Chiefs of Staff, 58; Lord Rockley, 61; Mr Brian Rouse, jockey, 55.

Appointments

Mr Peter Jennings to be Serjeant at Arms in the House of Commons.

Mr Peter Ord to be Resident Factor for the royal estate at Balmoral. He succeeds Mr Martin Leslie, who is retiring in October.

Mr David Leslie Smallman to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of St Helena.

Mr James Daly to be British High Commissioner to the Government of Vanuatu.

Mr Roger Bone to be Ambassador to Sweden.

Retirement

Judge Clark retired from the Circuit Bench on the South Eastern Circuit yesterday.

Premium Bonds

The following Premium Bond prize winners were announced yesterday:

£100,000: 40MT 027643, winner has a holding of £20,000 and comes from Barnet, north London; 43LP 502777, £8,050, South Glamorgan.

£50,000: 32QW 136386, £19,675, Sheffield; 42QW 610801, £19,000, Cambridgeshire; 14LZ 165713, £5,050, East Sussex.

£25,000: 3INS 406806, £10,000, Devon; 15TF 835551, £5,611, Camden, north London; 25LF 302627, £12,380, Kent; £25,000, 35QB 414652, £19,998, overseas.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Thomas Hobbes, philosopher, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, 1588; Jean Honoré Fragonard, painter, Grasse, France, 1732; Sir Henry Havelock, general, relieved Lucknow during the Indian Mutiny, Sunderland, 1795; Joseph Lister, surgeon and founder of antiseptic medicine, Upton, Essex, 1827; Algernon Swinburne, poet and critic, London, 1837; Spencer Tracy, actor, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1900; Herbert von Karajan, conductor, Salzburg, 1908.

DEATHS: William Brouncker, 2nd Viscount Brouncker, mathematician, first President of the Royal Society 1662-77, London, 1684; William Derham, theologian, 1735; Edward Young, poet, Welwyn, Hertfordshire, 1765; Georges-Jacques Danton, leader in French Revolution, executed, Paris, 1794; William Gilpin, writer, Boldre, 1804; Robert Raikes, pioneer of Sunday schools, Gloucester, 1811; Paul Vidal de la Blache, geographer, Tamaris-sur-Mer, 1918; George Edward Herbert, 5th Earl of Carnarvon, archaeologist, Cairo, 1923; Douglas MacArthur, American army general, Washington, 1964; Chiang Kai-Shek, head of the National Government in China 1928-49, Taiwan, 1975; Howard Hughes, manufacturer, aviator and film producer, on flight to Houston, Texas, 1976; Sir Arthur Harris, Marshal of the RAF, Goring, Oxfordshire, 1984.

Johann Strauss's opera *Die Fledermaus* was first performed in Vienna, 1874.

The trial of Oscar Wilde began at the Old Bailey for offences arising from his friendship with Lord Alfred Douglas, 1895.

Winston Churchill resigned as Prime Minister, 1955.

The British task force sailed from Southampton for the Falkland Islands after the invasion by Argentina, 1982.

The Royal Institute of International Affairs

The meeting which was to have been addressed by the French Minister of Transport and Tourism, Bernard Bosson, on Wednesday, April 5, at 5.30pm, has been cancelled.

Classical Associations discuss legendary rebel

Spartacus made slave to political fashion

BY PHILIP HOWARD



Kirk Douglas as the Hollywood Spartacus in 1960

WAS Spartacus a heroic freedom fighter or a terrorist enemy of civil order? Well, both, as it happens, for all his history. The joint Classical Associations meeting at St Andrews yesterday discussed how we continually recycle our ancestors as role models and for political purposes. They are all we have.

Dr Maria Wyke, of Reading University, argued that the film starring Kirk Douglas as Spartacus released in 1960, tackled contemporary concerns. Some boycotted the film because of the communist associations of the scriptwriter and the identification of Spartacus as the Red under the gladiator's net. Others welcomed the film for its radical call for social change.

America was created on the model of an ideal Roman republic, as was the French Republic. But from the beginning, America's Roman imagery was countered by Spartacus against slavery and racialism. So the Hollywood hero has an old cultural continuity with our grandfathers. The Roman elite saw Spartacus as the lowest of the low. Their descendants from Garibaldi to Tinseltown have used him, like Robin Hood, as a hero for underdogs against tyrants, usually played by British actors with accents to remind the audience of the worst excesses of George III. The films have caused political uproar. But it is still good box office.

Dr Catherine Edwards, of Bristol University, showed how the Roman Empire became an uneasy anti-model for imperial Britain. Romantics turned from the grandeur of Rome to the glamour of Greece. Pax Britannica was going to be better than Pax Romana, though a *Times* leader at the time of the Indian Mutiny called for "a Roman peace on India for the welfare of the natives".

Novelists from Walter Scott to Bulwer Lytton used the Romans as examples of cruelty, decadence, and materialism. The British Empire was going to be more successful than humane than its predecessor: democratic, Christian, and without slavery.

It is true that Macaulay praised the primitive simplicity of republican Rome before it went to the dogs, and Kipling used Rome as his model for British imperialism. But Kipling was regarded with hostility by many intellectuals. Many British artists and thinkers resisted and reacted against their Roman ancestry in the 19th and 20th centuries.

But love them or hate them, our classical ancestors continue to provide us with examples and awful warnings. Politicians from John Major to Enoch Powell used them as examples. They are still a living part of our identity and our rhetoric.

Memorial services

Viola Lady Chadwyck-Healey

A memorial service for Viola Lady Chadwyck-Healey was held yesterday at Chelsea Old Church. Canon Peter Elvy officiated. Mrs Philippa Lubbock and Mrs Serena Nickson, daughters, read the lessons. Mrs Clarissa Robinson, niece, gave an address.

Dr Richard Bonham Carter

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Dr Richard Erskine Bonham Carter, physician, was held yesterday at the Church of St George the Martyr, Queen Square. The Rev Derek Bacon, Chaplain to Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust, officiated, assisted by the Rev R. Partridge. Miss Adelaide Tunstill read the lesson. Dr James Taylor read from the works of R.L. Stevenson and Dr Susan Rampling, daughter, read from Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows*. Dr Archie Norman gave an address. Among those present were:

Mrs Bonham Carter (widow), Mr and Mrs Kris Scheinkönig and Mr and Mrs Peter Garner (sons-in-law and daughters), Dr Roy Rampling (son-in-law), Mr and Mrs Gilbert Stace, Mr Peter Bonham Carter, Mr Crispin Bonham Carter, the Hon Raymond and Mrs Bonham Carter, friends, colleagues and representatives of Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children, the Institute of Child Health and the 4th Parachute Brigade.

Lady Kelly

A Memorial Mass will be held for Lady Kelly (Marie-Noëlle), at 11.30am on April 6 at the Church of the Holy Redeemer, Chelsea, 7 Cheyne Row.

Theresa Koroma

A Memorial Requiem for Theresa Koroma, OBE (formerly Harvey), will be celebrated at St Mary's, Cadogan Street, on Wednesday, April 26, at 12.15pm. Further information telephone 0171 231 2759.

Dr Robert Robson

A Memorial Service for Robert Robson, MA, PhD, will be held in the Chapel of Trinity College, Cambridge on Saturday, April 29, 1995, at 2.00pm.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.F.P. Algar and Miss L.H. Stephenson

The engagement is announced between James, son of the late Mr W.J. Algar and of Mrs M.W.R. Algar, of Barnes, London, and Lucy, daughter of Mr J.C. Stephenson and the late Mrs C.H.M. Stephenson and stepdaughter of Mrs B. Stephenson, of Hunstrete, Avon.

M. E. Anglès d'Auriac and Miss E.A. Hubbard

The engagement is announced between Etienne, second son of M and Mme B. Anglès d'Auriac, of Paris, and Elizabeth, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs B.J. Hubbard, of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.

Mr G.H. Barnes and Miss J.Y. Larroucan

The engagement is announced between Gerard Hugh, elder son of Mr and Mrs David Barnes, of Tockenham, Wiltshire, and Jane Yvonne, daughter of Mr and Mrs *John Larroucan, of Stinchcombe*, Gloucestershire.

Mr J.P.Y. Davies and Miss J.P. Barclay

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr Jeremy Davies, of Chesterfield, Derbyshire, and Mrs Imogen Davies, of Gospel Oak, London, and Joanna, daughter of the late Daniel Barclay and of Lady Shuttleworth, of Leck Hall, Lancashire.

Mr J.B. Glendinning and Miss K. Hörschelmann

The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr Peter Glendinning and the late Mrs Glendinning (Hope), and Kathrin, daughter of Herr and Frau Gerd Hörschelmann.

Mr C.L. Mawby and Miss C.M. Wood

The engagement is announced between Cornelius Leonard, elder son of Mr and Mrs Frederick Mawby, and Catherine Mary, only daughter of Mr Christopher Wood and Mrs Eily Wood.

Mr J.A. Richardson and Miss J.C. Martin

The engagement is announced between James, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Robert J. Richardson, of Greenwich, Connecticut, and Joanna, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Stephen Martin, of Hotham, York.

First canal since 1905 saves flooded pit

BY PAUL WILKINSON

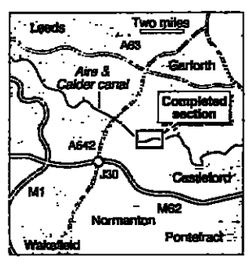
BRITAIN'S first new stretch of canal for 90 years opened yesterday with a slight hiccup.

Larger craft found their passage restricted by an uncharted sandbank thrown up by the propellers of barges as they manoeuvred close to the entrance of the new section of the Aire and Calder Navigation Canal in West Yorkshire.

Engineers expect to clear the sand without much difficulty, allowing traffic to flow freely along the new two-mile reach near the village of Oulton outside Leeds.

The canal is the first to be built since the New Junction Canal in South Yorkshire was completed in 1905. However, the project, which includes a lock capable of holding 500,000 gallons, does not signal a sudden upsurge in development of Britain's waterways.

It has been built to rescue the neighbouring St Aidan's open-cast coalmine which was inundated seven years ago when the River Aire, which runs parallel to the existing canal, burst its banks. It will carry the combined flows of the river and old canal on a new route away from the mine, enabling its owners, RJB Mining, to resume the weekly extraction of 12,000 tonnes of coal.



The new section has cost £20 million to build: in 1700 all 48 miles of the original canal cost £26,700, equivalent to about £1.7 million today.

The stretch includes several features not incorporated by the original engineers. Two old locks have been replaced with one larger one to speed up traffic. The operators, British Waterways, have also included a mooring basin for 150 pleasure craft and landscaped the surrounding area, which included a municipal rubbish tip, a colliery spoil heap and a sewage sludge dump.

Although steel shuttering and reinforced concrete have replaced the brick and timber construction of the first canal, its job is almost identical. The Aire and Calder was completed in 1704 to carry freight from the West Yorkshire mill towns of Leeds, Halifax and Wakefield via the Humber to the sea. Its wide locks and waterway enabled it to fight off the challenge from the railways. Up to 20 barges were harnessed behind a tug to make a "railway on water".

Today it carries around 2.5 million tonnes of freight a year. Huge 500-tonne barges carry the equivalent of 20 lorryloads of coal to power stations and others bring oil from the Immingham terminal on Humberside.

Mike Harrison, the canal manager, said: "It is an environmentally friendly way of transporting bulk loads which would otherwise block up our roads, and these days pleasure boating on our canals is a fast-growing pastime."

Latest wills

The actress Doris Speed, of Bury, Greater Manchester, Annie Walker of *Coronation Street*, left estate valued at £514,192 net.

Professor Clifford Embleton, of Feltham, west London, Professor in the Department of Geography at King's College London, 1964-90, left estate valued at £213,869 net.

He left £1,000 and 97 per cent of the residue to personal legatees, and 1 per cent of the residue each to St George's Parish Church, Hanworth, St John's College, Cambridge, and the Royal College of Organists.

Mr Eric Roy George Billmeir, of Westbrook, Elstead, Surrey, left estate valued at £6,800,907 net.

He left £50,000 to the Phyllis Tuckwell Memorial Hospice, Farnham, £30,000 to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, £15,000 each to Elstead Parish Church and Elstead Church of England Primary School, £10,000 to Mount Alvernia Hospital, Guildford, £5,000 each to the Elstead branch of the Royal British Legion and Elstead United Reform Church, £1,000 to the Elstead Garden Club and £500 to Elstead Cricket Club.

Mr James Vincent Broomer, of Goole, North Humberside, left estate valued at £365,459 net.

He desired that his son Charles shall arrange "a day out golfing for all the men with whom I normally or frequently play golf followed by a good meal" and "a poker dinner for all the men with whom I normally play poker" and he left a sum not exceeding £1,500 to be spent on these events, and he further left "in appreciation of many happy hours spent there and in the hope that others (particularly young people) may have similar pleasure: £1,000 to Brough Golf Club, subject to the condition that all the non-essential signs on the course, e.g. to avoid slow play, repair pitch marks, rake bunkers, etc, are removed and not replaced for a period of at least five years, in my opinion such signs are (i) unnatural on a private course, (ii) insulting to reasonable golfers and (iii) ineffective in persuading unreasonable golfers to behave with consideration for others", and £1,000 to Selby Golf Club.

Sylvia Alice Fereday, of Branksome Park, Dorset, left estate valued at £615,226 net.

She left £51,500 and effects to personal legatees, £5,000 to All Saints Church, Branksome Park, the net auction proceeds of her pictures not otherwise bequeathed equally between the RNLI and RNIB, and the residue equally between the above two charities and the National Trust.

Mrs Beatrice Marion Bourne, of Walton on Trent, Derbyshire £710,430.

Mrs Doris Elsie Youden, of Dover, £564,702

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Thomas Lynds, Vicar, Rainham w. Wennington and Assistant Rural Dean of Havering: to be Priest-in-charge, Great Canfield, Aythorpe Roding and High Roding (Chelmsford).

The Rev David McCormack, Vicar, All Saints, Four Oaks (Birmingham): to be also an Honorary Canon of Birmingham Cathedral.

The Rev Brian Macdonald-Milne, Rector, Radwinter w. Hempstead and Rural Dean of Saffron Walden: to be also Priest-in-charge, Great and Little Sampford (Chelmsford).

The Rev Neil MacGregor, Rector, Wem w. Lee Brockhurst: to be also Priest-in-charge, Loppington w. Newtown (Lichfield).

The Rev Robert Mayo, Director, Cambridge University Mission, Bermondsey: to be Chaplain to the South Bank University (Southwark).

The Rev David Miller, retired: to be Chaplain (NSM), of Torrevieja, Spain (Europe).

The Rev Roy Pearson, Vicar, All Hallows, Tottenham: to be also Area Dean of East Haringey (London).

The Rev Brian Rodford, Hon. Assistant Priest, Holy Trinity, Winchmore Hill: to be Vicar, St Matthew's, Ponders End (London).

The Rev Christopher Rutledge, Vicar, St Mark's, Talbot Village (Salisbury): to be also a Non-Residentiary Canon of Salisbury Cathedral.

The Rev David Simmonds, Vicar, Branston: to be also Rural Dean of Tutbury (Lichfield).

The Rev Mary Somervell, Resident Minister, Wilnecote: to be Resident Minister (NS), Loppington w. Newtown (Lichfield).

The Rev Nicky Tredennick, Assistant Curate, Holy Trinity, Roehampton: to be also Rural Dean of Wandsworth (Southwark).

The Rev David Wade, Assistant Curate, Ascension, Victoria Dock: to be Priest-in-charge, St Luke, Victoria Dock, and remains Chairman of the Ascension Redevelopment Project (Chelmsford).

The Rev Michael Ward, Vicar, St James, Southbroom (Salisbury): to be also a Non-Residentiary Canon of Salisbury Cathedral.

The Rev Douglas Watson: permission to officiate, diocese Canterbury.

The Rev David Webb, Curate (NSM), St Mary, Sittingbourne: to be Curate (NSM), with special responsibility for Iwade (Canterbury).

Resignations and retirements

The Rev Peter Geldard, Vicar, The Brents w. Davington and Oare w. Luddenham (Canterbury): to resign as from March 31.

The Rev Julian Harford, Assistant Curate, Latimer and Flaunden (Oxford): to retire as from March 31.

The Rev Raymond Houldsworth, Vicar, Minster w. Monkton (Canterbury): to retire as from June 30.

The Rev Michael Markey, Vicar, Christ Church w. St Mary Magdalene, Munster Square (London): resigned as from March 20.

The Rev John Morgan, Vicar, North Leigh (Oxford): to retire as from April 30.

PERSONAL COLUMN

BMD'S: 0171 782 7272
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

TRADE: 0171 481 9313
FAX: 0171 481 9313

But you, Lord, are enthroned for ever; your fame will endure to all generations. Psalm 102 : 12 (REB).

BIRTHS

ACLAND - On 1st April 1995, to Piers and Lucinda (née Rafman), a daughter, Harriet.

BLOOM-DAVIS - On April 4th 1995, to Sarah (née Waters) and Desmond, a daughter, Olivia Sophie, a cousin for Charlie.

BUBBEAR - Theresa (née Allen) and Alan are delighted to announce the arrival of Jennifer Elizabeth on 1st April 1995. An accomplice for Katharine and Natalie.

BUDE - On April 1st at The Portland Hospital, to Nuchy and Gitella Bude, a beautiful daughter and granddaughter to Moishe and Helen and Paul and Hindy

CHISHOLM - On 22nd March, to Jocelyn and Simon, a son, James Alexander, a brother for Catherine Elizabeth.

CREAGHCOEN - On March 31st, at 5.48 pm, to Christopher and Caroline, a beautiful daughter, Indiana Marie-Chantal Creaghcoen. With thanks to all involved at The Chelsea and Westminster Hospital.

CUDDIGAN - On March 31st 1995, at Borders General Hospital, Melrose, to Amanda (née Mangles) and Mark, a son, Jack Simon, a brother for Molly.

CURRY - On March 24th, to Christopher and Amanda (née Nightingale), a son, Joshua, a brother for Izabella, Max and Oliver.

EVANS - On March 28th at The Portland Hospital, to Julia de Peyer and Douglas Evans, a son, Eli Jonas de Peyer Evans.

HAMMERTON - On 2nd April, to Vanessa (née Rumbold) and Alastair, a daughter, Elizabeth Dorothy, a sister for George.

HAYES - Joseph Jock to Katherine Agnew and George, on a sunny Sunday afternoon, 2nd April.

BIRTHS

HEWITT - On Tuesday March 28th 1995, in Manly, NSW, to Ann (née Payne) and Simon, a son, Julian Trewin Peter.

HUGHES-ONSLOW - On 29th March, to Christine and Richard, a son, George Oliver.

HUNTER - On April 3rd at St Thomas' Hospital, London, to Katharine and Charles, a daughter, Lily Rose.

INNES - On 29th March, to Rosalind (née Fawcett) and David, a daughter, Josephine Emily Margaret.

JEFFERSON - On April 3rd, to Joanne (née Southall) and Nigel, a son, Mark Frederick, a brother for Hannah and Sarah.

KIRKBY - On 30th March 1995, to Sean and Louise, a beautiful baby daughter, Erin Louise.

LYNN - On April 2nd at The Portland Hospital, to Charlotte (née Rooney) and Philip, a son, Archie.

PLATTS-MARTIN - See Wright.

SEYMOUR - On 25rd March 1995 at The Rosie Maternity Hospital, to Christine and Grahame, a daughter, Jennifer, sister to Benjamin and Eleanor.

SOLOMONS - On April 2nd at The Portland Hospital, to Karin (née Richter) and Richard, a daughter, Rachel Alice, a sister for Thomas and Kate.

TAYLOR - On March 30th at The Portland Hospital, to Fiona (née Gardiner) and Robin, a daughter (Beatrice).

VERNAU - On 3rd April at Wycombe General Hospital, to Kim (née Lunn) and David, a beautiful son, Harrison David.

WATKINS - On March 25th at University College Hospital, to Simon and Kate, two sons, Giles and Toby, brothers to Oscar.

WRIGHT - On 1st April, to Susan (née Platts-Martin) and Nigel, a son, Alastair, a brother for Charles.

DEATHS

ARCHER - Frank ARCA, RE, RWS. Died peacefully on 31st March after a short illness. Deeply loved by family and friends, he will be sadly missed. Service: Tuesday 11th April 2.15 pm Heathfield Independant Chapel, Punnetts Town. Flowers to Haines & Son, Eastbourne. Donations to Salvation Army, 101 Queen Victoria Street, EC4P 4EP.

ATTRILL - On April 3rd peacefully, Kenneth William of Hadley Wood. Husband of Sally, father of Robin. No flowers please. Funeral at New Southgate Crematorium, 12 noon, Monday 10th April.

BARR - Suddenly at Borders General Hospital, Melrose, Scotland, on 3rd April 1995, Ian Barr (formerly Chairman of the Scottish Postal Board). Beloved husband of Margaret and dear father of Karen and Kirsten. Funeral private. No flowers please. A Memorial Service is to be arranged.

BATCHELOR - On 2nd April 1995, peacefully, Anne Mary Batchelor of Paxton Hill House, St Neots, aged 88. Dearly loved wife of the late Border Batchelor and loving mother and grandmother. Funeral at Holy Trinity Church, St Paxton, on Tuesday 11th April at 11.30 am. Flowers to T.L. Cobbold, Hall Weston. tel: (01480) 472398.

BRADSHAW - On April 2nd, peacefully at home, Joan, most loving and beloved wife of John and mother of Alexander, Gillie, Richard and Dominic and devoted granny to her five grandchildren. Funeral Mass will be held at The Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, Edge Hill, Wimbledon, on Monday April 10th at 11 am followed by private interment. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the British Heart Foundation c/o Fredk. W. Paine, 6 Coombe Lane, Raynes Park, London SW20 8ND. tel: (0181) 946-1974.

DEATHS

CASTLE - Stephanie, on 3rd April 1995, peacefully in Charing Cross Hospital, dearly loved mother of Fleur and grandmother of Poppy. Funeral Service to be held at Chelsea Old Church, Old Church Street, SW3 at 11 am on Friday 7th April. Flowers to J.H. Kenyon, 49 Marloes Road, W8. (0171) 937-0757.

DEAN - On 2nd April, peacefully at Brendoncare, Froxfield, Wilts., Vera, aged 86 years. Loving mother of John and Jane, much loved and will be sadly missed by all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral Service at St Katharine's Church, Savernake, nr. Marlborough, Wilts. on Tuesday 11th April at 4 pm. Enquiries to Will Case and Partners, tel: (01722) 414521.

DUNN - On 3rd April peacefully in hospital at Haywards Heath after a long illness, courageously borne, Lt. Col. Sir Vivian Dunn, KCVO, OBE, FRAM, formerly Principal Director of Music Royal Marines, and Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Musicians. Beloved husband of Mike, and father of Leonie, Paddy and Rosey. Service to be held at All Saints Church, Lindfield, Sussex, at 12 noon Monday 10th April. Family flowers only. Donations if desired, enquiries to Masters and Son, Lindfield. (01444) 482107.

FRASER - Victoria, on 4th April 1995, peacefully at home in Putney, much loved wife of Michael, daughter of Guy and sister of Melissa. Funeral Service at All Saints Church, Putney Common, on Friday 7th April at 3 pm. Flowers to Ashton Mathias, 221 Upper Richmond Road, Putney, London SW15 6SD or donations, if desired, to Dr. Ian Smith's Cancer Research Fund, Royal Marsden Hospital, London SW3 6JJ.

DEATHS

HAMILTON - On 30th March 1995, suddenly at work, Doctor Gerald (Gerry) Hamilton. Loving son of Bertha, brother of John, Jennifer and Richard. Funeral Service at Reading Crematorium on Wednesday 12th April at 12 noon. Enquiries to A.B. Walker and Son Limited, 36 Eldon Road, Reading, RG1 4DL. tel: (01734) 573650.

HERBERT - On 3rd April 1995 in Tangier, David, second son of the 15th Earl of Pembroke, aged 86. Funeral Service at St Andrew's Church, Tangier, on Monday 10th April. No memorial service.

JAQUET - On April 1st 1995, peacefully, Manuel Frederick, aged 75, of Hove, Taunton. Beloved husband of Mary, dear father of Nicholas and grandfather of Eleanor and Isabel. Formerly schoolmaster of King's College Taunton. Funeral at 2.30 pm on Monday 10th April at St James' Church, Halse. No flowers please but donations if wished to Anthony James F.D., 30 Lion Wyndscombe, for St James' Church.

KELLY - On April 2nd 1995, Declan Patrick passed away suddenly, aged 52 years. Private funeral service in London for family and close friends. Donations in lieu of flowers for The Monitor Trust and New Ham Riding School Association c/o C.S. Bowyer Ltd., 5 Church Street, Bradford-on-Avon, BA15 1LN.

KNOX - On April 1st 1995, very peacefully at Creighton House, Sandwich, Jane (Edna) aged 91 years. Much loved mother of Donald and Michael, grandmother of eight, great-grandmother of five, stepmother of Richard and Tim, and great friend of Morag and Joan Edwards. Funeral Service at Barham Crematorium on Friday 7th April at 11.30 am. Enquiries to J. Dinot Smith & Son, (01304) 812300.

DEATHS

LANGLEY - On Friday 31st March. Hal, the devoted husband of the late Rosalie, a much loved father, grandfather, brother and friend. The funeral service will take place at St Martin's Church, Scarborough, on Friday 7th April at 12.15pm, followed by cremation. No flowers please but donations, if so desired, to the Stroke Association c/o Scarborough Funeral Service, 6 South Street, Scarborough.

LONG - On March 26th, Feridah Mary (née Carver), much loved mother of Chris and Pat, proud granny of Emma and Hugh. Her funeral has already taken place.

LYNCH - Clifford James on 2nd April at home, beloved husband of Loretta, father of Jerome, Clifford and Suzette and grandfather. Funeral Service South London Crematorium on Monday 10th April at 12 noon. No flowers by request but donations to Imperial Cancer Research c/o Dowsett and Jenkins, 1507 London Road, SW16 4EA. tel: (0181) 764-2912.

MARSHALL - On April 3rd, suddenly in hospital, Ronald (Micky) of Burford, Oxon. Darling husband of Phyllis (Tilly) and beloved father of Simon. Cremation private.

McKENNA - On 31st March, John Michael, most loving and beloved husband of Evelyn and twin brother of Brian. He will be sadly missed by his sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews who so greatly loved him, and by all his friends and colleagues in England, in Ireland, and in many parts of the world. Requiem Mass on Wednesday April 5th at 11am at the Church of St Alban and Stephen, Beaconsfield Road, St Albans, followed by burial in Ireland. No flowers please, but donations if desired, to the Coronary Care Unit of Hemel Hempstead Hospital, whose staff were so kind.

DEATHS

MUNFORD - On 1st April 1995, peacefully at Southwold Hospital, Angela Mabel Leslie, retired teacher of classics, aged 87 years. Funeral Service at Southwold Parish Church at 2.30 pm on Monday 10th April, followed by private cremation. No flowers by request but, if desired, donations for The Peoples Dispensary for Sick Animals may be sent to Fishers (Southwold) Ltd., Field Site Road, Southwold, Suffolk IP18 6LD.

O'DONNELL - Suddenly on 1st April 1995, after a short illness, Patrick George aged 80 years. Deeply beloved husband of Elsbeth and fondest father of Kathleen and Nicola. Requiem Mass at St Teresa's R.C. Beaconsfield, on Thursday 6th April at 2.45 pm. Flowers to Tilbury House, Shepherds Lane, Beaconsfield. Deeply loved by all his family. R.I.P.

OSWIN - On Monday, March 27th, peacefully at home, Francis Stewart. Husband of Elizabeth and father of Charles, Elizabeth and Sarah. Family funeral has taken place.

OSBORN - Margaret (née Kelk), on April 3rd 1995, in her 88th year, devoted wife of the late John and loving mother of Janet and Clare. Funeral enquiries to Quinns, tel: (0181) 628-5274.

PHILLIMORE - On March 31st, peacefully at Melville House, Lt. Cdr. John Russell Phillimore DSC, RNR, aged 82, loving husband to Joan and father to Michael, Julia and Peter. Sadly missed by all his family and many friends and colleagues to whom he was an inspiration. Funeral Service at St John's Church, Hawthorne, Birmingham, April 13th at 12 noon, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only please. (Funeral Director, W. Gains, 426 Rotton Park Road).

DEATHS

POLLARD - Peacefully on April 1st 1995, Grace Georgina, aged 95 years, for many years Head of Classics at Wycombe Abbey and Bosbury Grammar School. Funeral Service to be held at Eastbourne Crematorium on Monday April 10th at 12 noon. Enquiries to Serenity Funeral Directors, 43 South Street, Eastbourne, tel: (01323) 736446.

ROBERTS - On March 31st peacefully in hospital, Joan, beloved wife of Norman, mother of John and Susan, mother-in-law of Daphne and best of grandmothers to Gillian, Elizabeth and Michael. Service at Eltham Crematorium, SE9, at 3.45pm 12th April. Family flowers only and donations if desired to Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, Haywards Heath, Sussex RH16 3AZ.

SHARP - Katharine Mary Ulian, widow of the late Major Douglas Charles Granville Sharp RA (rtd) founder of United Service Garages Portsmouth, passed away peacefully in her 96th year, on April 1st 1995. Funeral Service at St Peter's Church, Hayling Island, Hampshire, on Monday April 10th 1995 at 12 noon, followed by interment at Warblington Cemetery. Flowers or donations to SSAFA c/o Grady's Funeral Directors, 23 Mengham Road, Hayling Island, Hampshire PO11 9BG.

TIDDER - Robert Edward of Uplands Hotel, Aldeburgh, Suffolk, passed away on April 2nd in Ipswich Hospital after an illness courageously borne. Funeral Service at Aldeburgh Parish Church on Tuesday April 11th at noon followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations if desired for Cancer Research. Please make cheques payable to "Research and Study Leave Fund" c/o Tony Brown's Funeral Service, Saxmundham, Suffolk.

DEATHS

TURNER - Peacefully on 2nd April 1995, Doris Mary aged 94, retired Nursing Sister. Funeral Service Hereford Crematorium, Monday 10th April at 2 pm. Enquiries Thomas Lewis and Son, 11 Broad Street, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 8BT. tel: (01568) 612115.

WILFORD - On 1st April, at The Princess Grace Hospital, London, suddenly after a long illness, Edmund, elder son of the late Charles and Hilda Wilford, brother of Philip and friend of Stuart. Funeral Service at St Bartholomew's Church, Hanworth, Norfolk, at 2.30pm Saturday April 8th. Flowers to Blyth & Sons, Sheringham, tel: (01263) 825188.

WILLIAMS - Barbara on 2nd April 1995 at Pendean, Midhurst. Much loved and admired by her family and friends. Funeral Service at St Mary's Magdaline, West Lavington on 7th April at 2pm. Flowers to L.F. Linnett & Son, North Street, Midhurst, West Sussex. tel: (01730) 813264.

YONGE - On April 1st 1995, Dame Felicity Ann Youge, D.B.E., dear sister of Elizabeth, peacefully in St Teresa's Nursing Home, Wimbledon, after a long illness very bravely borne. She will be much missed by her family and her many friends. Requiem Mass on Tuesday April 11th 2 pm at The Church of Christ the King, Wimbledon Park, followed by private cremation. No flowers by request but donations may be sent to Imperial Cancer Research Fund, 61 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

HILLABY - The Memorial Service for the Reverend Victor Hillaby T.D., will take place on Tuesday 18th April at 3 pm at Dallington Church, near Heathfield, East Sussex.

IN MEMORIAM — WAR

302 E.A.D.C.U. - Royal Army Ordnance Corps. Espelkamp, NW Germany. 05.04.45.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BELL - On April 5, 1911, suddenly at Printing House Square, E.C., Charles Frederick Moberley Bell, Managing Director of The Times, of 22 Park Crescent, Portland Place, W., aged 64.

DUTTON - Thomas William (Bill). April 4th 1978. In grateful remembrance of a kind, loyal and steadfast friend.

VYVYAN - (Crown) Jennifer. Beloved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIONA (née) Morgan. Born Jul/Aug 65. Graduated of Bristol Uni 87. Tel me Randy (v old friend Judd who writes to me) 0143 726 9511.

TONY CHERRY! Please contact Christopher, Lagos. Tel. 01/71 703 7985

هذا من الاصل

OBITUARIES

KENNY EVERETT

Kenny Everett, disc jockey and television comedian, died from an Aids-related illness yesterday aged 50. He was born in Liverpool on Christmas Day, 1944.



KENNY EVERETT belonged to that elite band of radio disc jockeys who have made the successful transition to television stardom. His own opportunity came in the late 1970s with *The Kenny Everett Video Show* which later transferred to the BBC as *The Kenny Everett Television Show*. The series was originally planned as a low-budget, experimental comedy show, but it quickly gained a large, devoted and predominantly teenage audience.

The programmes were unapologetically chaotic affairs strung together with large bangs, puffs of smoke, electronic wizardry and sketches featuring the voluptuous brunette Cleo Rocos. Suggestive routines from the scantily-clad dance group Hot Gossip were interspersed with monologues from Everett's stock characters: the spaceman Captain Kremmen, the biker Sid Snot and the hairdresser Marcel Wave. Most provocatively, there was Everett masquerading as a Dolly Parton-lookalike named Cupid Stunt, sporting a red dress and incongruous blonde wig.

Everett's personal life appeared to ride along equally chaotic lines. There were the frequent firings by his broadcasting employers; the arguments with the BBC, or "Beeb" (Everett claimed to have coined the word); his "outing" as a homosexual after years of apparently happy marriage; his admission to being a Tory at a Young Conservative rally in 1983, where he also famously suggested that Britain should bomb Russia (neither statement guaranteed to please his young audience); his early dependence on drugs and alcohol; and his suicide attempt in 1975.

But for all the hype Everett was undoubtedly one of the most talented live radio performers of his generation, blessed with the sort of hyperactive personality that would always rush to fill a momentary lull in the conversation or interview with some little joke. Once, when he was running late and caught in a traffic jam on the M4, he transmitted one of his funniest shows live over the car phone, winding down his windows to collect requests from disgruntled motorists.

He was born Maurice James Christopher Cole, the son of a Liverpool tugboat captain. He was a small, solitary child and was an easy target for the bigger boys at St Bede's Secondary Modern, many of whom came from the dockside area. His only passion was radio, a subject upon which, by his teens, he had built up an encyclopaedic knowledge.

He soon discovered that one route to popularity in the classroom was to make people laugh, and he developed a repertoire of impersonations and jokes. At 14 he was sent to a Catholic seminary though he had little desire to become a priest. Afterwards, he held various jobs including three months in a bakery cleaning sausage roll trays. From his paper-round earnings, he bought two tape recorders and began to make his own programmes, featuring bursts of music interspersed with comic monologues. He sent one to the BBC and subsequently auditioned, unsuccessfully, to be a disc jockey.

However, when he first tuned into the new pirate radio station, Radio Caroline, he recognised that independent radio might be more tolerant of his ideas. He was accepted by Radio London, changed his name to Kenny Everett and began broadcasting, but was promptly sacked in 1968 for impersonating one of the station's advertisers. He found work with the BBC as one of Radio One's first disc jockeys, but was again dismissed in 1970 for suggesting to listeners that Mary Peyton, the wife of the then Transport Minister John Peyton, had only passed her driving test by "cramming a fiver into the examiner's hand". The BBC regarded the joke as "indefensible".

In 1972, after a few years living quietly in the country, Everett was forgiven, recalled to Radio One and given a regular Saturday morning show. Their only stipulation was that the show should be vetted by executives before being transmitted. Everett had to record his show from his studio in Wales and send it down to Radio One by train every night to have it checked.

The following year commercial radio stations began to appear and Everett was given a breakfast show on Capital Radio. This became his natural home. After a few years, he changed to a Saturday and Sunday morning slot, alarming his employers by screeching into the studio car park five minutes before his show was due to start. It was here that the Captain Kremmen series was born, with Everett playing an undersized hero waging intergalactic battles with the man-eating Krells.

By 1978 his popularity with teenage listeners had quietly mushroomed to the point that Thames Television was prepared to give him his own show, *The Kenny Everett Video Show*. It was a huge risk as Everett worked instinctively, thriving on the adrenalin provided by a lack of script. He pulled it off, however, and the series transferred to the BBC in 1982, renamed as *The Kenny Everett Television Show*. The show survived the transition well and strangely, considering the peculiarly English nature of Everett's humour, which owed much to the Goons and Benny Hill, it seemed to go down equally well with American and Antipodean audiences.

However, by the mid-1980s the show was losing some of its sparkle and it finally folded in 1988. In the end, it was never clear whether Everett gave up television or was pushed but ratings were certainly dropping. For his part, Everett also claimed to be tired of the filming schedule and of having to spend three hours taping a 10-second sketch. He would prefer, he said, to be "medium rich" and happy rather than rich and miserable. His television career never really recovered, though he did host a science-based quiz show called *Brainstorm* for the BBC in 1988.

As a disc jockey, he was fired from BBC Radio for the last time in 1984, after telling a rude joke about Margaret Thatcher on Radio Two — ironically handed to him by his own producer. He joined the newly-launched Capital Gold station in 1988 and remained there, despite his illness, until last year: "How healthy do you have to be to play *Da Do Ron Ron*?" he asked.

Everett's marriage to Lee Middleton ended in divorce, and his companion for many years, Nicolai Grishanovitch, died of an Aids-related disease in 1990.

FRANZ STAMPFL



Stampfl, left, and Roger Bannister after the latter's historic four-minute mile at Oxford in 1954

Franz Stampfl, athletics coach, died in Melbourne on March 19 aged 81. He was born in Vienna on November 18, 1913.

MORE than any other coach, Franz Stampfl can claim credit for the remarkable and innovative training methods which led to Roger Bannister's historic first four-minute mile run in 1954. The four-minute mile had been a tantalising goal since the end of the Second World War. It had been almost on a par with breaking the sound barrier in level flight in an aircraft. So many had come so close, but none had succeeded in breaching that talismanic frontier of athletic endeavour.

On May 6, 1954, in front of only 1,500 people huddled into the tiny stand at Iffley Road, Oxford, on a dreary, windy and generally inclement evening — not the atmosphere in which records are manufactured — Roger Bannister finally shattered the four-minute barrier, breasting the tape in 3min 59.8 sec. Suitably, at the end of this tremendous run, he collapsed into the duffel-coated embrace of Franz Stampfl.

It was total exoneration for a type of training regime with which Stampfl took British middle-distance running by the scruff of the neck. His innovative interval training for the mile, in which repeated punishing attacks on the quarter mile distance replaced the old notion of simply trying to improve on one's time for the whole distance, led to far better performances among the athletes he trained. It engendered an understanding of the fact that ferocious pace and not merely stamina was the key to middle distance success. Most importantly it bred in his runners a mental toughness and a belief in their ability to extend themselves as never before.

The results spoke for themselves. Stampfl's interval training methods ushered in a golden age of British middle distance running in the mid-1950s, with names like Bannister, Brasher and Chataway dominating international fields in distances from 1,500 to 5,000 metres.

Of the first five men to go through four minutes for the mile — Bannister, Landy, Tabori, Chataway and Hewson — three, Bannister, Chataway and Hewson, owed their training to him.

Born in Vienna, Franz Stampfl went to high school there and afterwards to the Vienna Academy of Art. Precocious in many fields, he was a fine athlete, particularly as a javelin thrower, as well as an artist.

His life for the next few years was to be eventful in ways he could not have foreseen and to some extent accounts for the indomitable personality which was ever afterwards his hallmark. After the Anschluss, he left Austria for Britain, setting up as a coach in Ireland.

When the Second World War broke out he wanted to join up but found himself, as with so many refugees from Hitler's "Greater Germany", classed as an alien. As such, he was shipped to an internment camp in Canada, aboard the liner *Andorra Star*. En route to her destination the ship was torpedoed and sunk with great loss of life. Only 400 of the 2,400 internees and crew survived; Stampfl was one of them, picked up after hours in icy, oil-filled water. From Canada he was shipped to Australia where he spent the rest of the war.

In 1946 he returned to the United Kingdom, eventually coming to London where, in the early 1950s, he met the group of athletes whose lives he was to affect most profoundly. It began with training sessions he ran for interested parties at the Duke of York's barracks.

Those who were prepared to subject themselves to the Stampfl regime paid one shilling for each evening's training — but they found themselves involved in an ethos which was to transform their previously-held notions of athletics. The light training regimes which had been thought adequate in the pre-war and immediate postwar years were replaced by a ferocious concentration on developing muscle speed — the *sine qua non* of any athlete. Interval training, which might, in an evening, mean 10x440 yards with a two-minute jogging "rest" period in between, or four or five half-miles run off with, again, only a short breathing space, soon impressed upon Stampfl's young charges that athletics was a serious business.

Men like Bannister, Chataway, Brasher and Hewson suddenly began to glimpse horizons of endeavour that men had never surmounted before. Bannister's four-minute mile in 1954 ushered in an era in which he and his colleagues were supreme in the middle distance events. Stampfl's methods recommended themselves to athletes in very different disciplines. The tennis player Ashley Cooper benefited from his regimes. Don Cockell's valiant challenge for Rocky Marciano's world heavyweight boxing title in 1955 would doubtless have lasted far fewer than the nine rounds it occupied had it not been for Stampfl's ministrations to the British boxer's pear-shaped figure.

In 1955 Stampfl left England for Australia where he became Director of Athletics at Melbourne University. In 1980 he was cruelly injured when his car was hit by another while it was stationary at a traffic light. Confined as a quadraplegic to a wheelchair, he nevertheless continued to take as much interest in willing athletes as his paralysed condition allowed. To the end he demonstrated that man's mind was capable of engaging on quite unsuspected levels of endeavour.

He leaves his widow Patricia and a son.

THE HON DAVID HERBERT

The Hon David Herbert, writer and aesthete, died on April 3 aged 86. He was born on October 3, 1908.



DAVID HERBERT was one of the last of the circle known as the Bright Young Things. An interior decorator, international partygoer and sometime cabaret singer, Herbert might at first glance seem a minor player in the cast — which included Tallulah Bankhead, Diana Cooper and Stephen Tennant. His talent was not for the classic but for the social arts, and in this field he had few rivals. In the word of another friend, Ian Fleming, his most enduring role became that of "Queen Mother" of Tangiers where, eccentrically beringed and toupeed, he spent his latter days dividing and ruling Britain's expatriate community on the North African coast.

"If you grow up and want to be an actor but cannot act," Herbert wrote in *Relations and Revelations* (1992), "you must satisfy this passion by being permanently on stage in everyday life." His pink house at Djamaa el Mokra on the western side of Tangiers was an elaborate backdrop for many of these performances. Highlighted in bright greens and reds, the hill residence was decorated extravagantly, not to say exclusively, with the lesser furniture of a great country home — Wilton — where Herbert had grown up. It also had a fine garden and a number of parrots, the latter buried beneath personalised tombstones in the nearby Pet Dispensary of which Herbert was proud chairman.

A mercurial, energetic and generous host, he was capable in equal measure of great charm and also destruction. Those Tangerines who could count on him as a friend, like Paul Bowles, praised his vitality, his optimism, his devouring social curiosity and sharp humour. According to Cecil Beaton he was a "most delightful, gay, alive and witty personality and companion". Others were less disposed, notably those whom he considered "second-rate". They did not find endearing his tendency to repeat as verbatim those things people might have thought, but perhaps had not said. They also found him an unforgiving enemy once patronage had been withdrawn. The writer Rupert Croft-Cooke — cruelly dubbed by Herbert as "Cleft-cock" — was seen off successfully to the Spanish enclave of Ceuta, while others such as Ted Morgan were compelled to seek satisfaction in unsatisfactory *romans à clef*. In *Rowing Towards Eden*, Morgan depicted Herbert as the remittance man, Randolph Norman: "His face showed signs of overbreeding with its tiny features and close-set eyes, like a julienne of mixed vegetables in the centre of a salad." But none of the fictional portraits Herbert inspired did even remote justice to their model. Whatever his flaws, he remained emphatically larger than the life he chose to have around him.

The Honourable David Alexander Reginald Herbert was the second son of the 15th Earl of Pembroke. His childhood was passed in Ireland and at Wilton, the beautiful family seat outside Salisbury. A family friend, Edith Oliver, predicted "no future for David", and the early years did not disappoint this forecast. After preparatory school at Wixenford, he proceeded to Eton where he failed to glow either academically or on the playing field. He was birched by the Head Master and was responsible, when out rowing one day, for sinking his crew after waving to friends on the bank. His energies were devoted to his social activities — to the end of his life he could not tolerate the idea of dining alone — and to the stage where his habit was to overact. With his face blacked-up to represent an Eastern bodyguard, he performed with Stephen Tennant in the pantomime *Blue Beaver*.

While eventually he would reconcile himself to the part of one of the Ugly Sisters, his youthful desire to tread the boards was at powerful variance with his parents' wish to send him to Sandhurst. After a stint at an army college in Farnborough, he was employed by the novelist Elinor Glyn in two films, *Knowing Men* and *The Princes of Things*. These failed to make an impact and in 1927 he travelled to Berlin where he was employed briefly as secretary to the banker Otto Kahn.

When Kahn sacked him, Herbert taught English to German actresses and in the evenings dressed up in a sailor's uniform and sang songs like *Mean to Me* in the Jockey nightclub. His engagement to a Jewish girl, Ruth Landshoff, was as surprising to those who considered they knew him as indeed it proved to be short-lived, the romance ending when Herbert replaced her in his heart with Harold Nicolson. "Vita was so wonderful. She wrote to Harold saying 'I approve *enormously*, but *don't* change him. We need a few hummingbirds about'."

There is little doubting the importance of this relationship, as can be seen by an incident towards the end of Nicolson's life. On a visit to the diplomat's bedside, Herbert suddenly saw a bust of himself propped on the pillow. "'Don't you remember,' said Harold, 'I had that made of you in Berlin?' And we both blubbed. He said whenever he felt miserable he put it on the pillow next to him."

After Berlin, Herbert lived in New York, working in an antiques shop and painting portraits of society hostesses, but soon moved back home, to a house in the grounds of Wilton, Park School, which he redecorated in the shadow of his "dictatorial mother". Destined never to inherit the estate, Herbert claimed to have realised early on that he would not have been suited for the role of heir. In his memoirs, *Second Son* (1972), he wrote: "I have always been too much of a rebel by nature, too adventurous and unconventional in my ways to fit into the required traditional pattern."

Tangiers perfectly matched the unconventionality of Herbert's ways. He first came with his cousin Michael Duff in 1933 and was allured at once by the laisser-faire attitude of the International City. He returned in 1939 with Cecil Beaton and rented a house in the Casbah, where they worked together on Beaton's camp spoof biography, *My Royal Past*. "After three weeks David has become a complete Tangerine," observed the photographer.

Herbert did not come again to Morocco until after the war, during which he served as a wireless operator in the Merchant Navy. In 1942 his ship, the *SS Strathallan* was torpedoed with the loss of 400 men, Herbert being one of the few survivors. In 1950 he and his companion James Caffery settled permanently in Tangiers.

The Tangiers of popular imagination — that of a sub-tropical Tilling — is substantially Herbert's creation and is unlikely to survive him. He encouraged the place to take him at his own estimation and in the telephone directory could be found ennobled under the phonetic title of "Lord Rebbert". It was he who advised on the guest lists for parties thrown by Barbara Hutton and Malcolm Forbes, ruthlessly excluding those who in the interim had bored or crossed him. In stirring this pot he extracted a pleasure that might have eluded him in his personal life. Herbert's relationship with Caffery was to end painfully and typically when Caffery (who had become the *Tangiers Gazette*'s gardening columnist) left him for someone else. As Herbert wrote in *Relations and Revelations*, "relationships between homosexual men, who are mostly promiscuous, rarely last very long".

On his brother's death in 1969 he became heir presumptive to the Earldom of Pembroke, a state which lasted until the birth of his nephew's son and heir in 1978.

In his last years he took to writing anecdotal accounts of his life, enjoying what one Tangerine called "a succès de self-esteem." *Second Son* appeared in 1972, *Engaging Eccentrics* in 1990 and *Relations and Revelations* in 1992. The books were like their author: amusing, lively, colourful — and gay in all senses of that word. The last volume consisted of hilarious pieces of advice addressed to his newly-born great-niece, Jemima, and included the line, "If you are a man. . ."

He was unmarried.

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The shipping lines White Star and Cunard once keenly competed for the North Atlantic trade. Between 1902 and 1911 the former launched Cedric, Baltic, Adriatic, Olympic *and* Titanic. *Cunard's programme included* Carmania, Lusitania *and* Mauretania.

THE WHITE STAR LINER CELTIC.

(From Our Special Correspondent)
Belfast, April 4

The Celtic has not been designed with any view of attaining high speeds; her claim to distinction lies rather in the fact that she is the biggest boat that ever has been built or is now in process of construction.

The population — this seems the only suitable word — which can live in the Celtic consists of over 3,000, about a tenth of whom are members of the crew. But, that she may have a trip satisfactory to her owners, it is by no means necessary that she should have that number on board; for a certain elasticity is perhaps the most important feature of boats of her class, so that a large portion of her space may be used either for passengers or for cargo as circumstances require. The number of first-class passengers for which provision is made is 317. Their accommodation will be on the upper, the bridge, the upper bridge, and the boat decks, their dining saloon on the upper deck stretching the whole width of the ship, and one innovation that is sure to find favour is a number of single-berth state rooms. The fittings of the rooms and saloon may not vie in luxury with those of the fastest Atlantic boats — that is one reason why the Celtic cost very much less than the Oceanic, though it is the larger vessel: but the owners intend that passengers shall be thoroughly comfortable. The quarters for 160 second-class passengers are on the upper and bridge decks, the dining saloon being also on the former deck. Third-class passengers to the number of 2,352 can be taken on the upper, middle, and lower decks, some in state rooms and some in open berths. Married couples and single women will be accommodated in the after end, and single men in the forward end; all, with the amenities of a smoking-room and a comfortable general room, will be treated in a way which will be striking contrast to that which prevailed only a very few years ago. The deck crew numbers 64, the engine-room and stokehold staff 92, and the stewards 179.

The vessel was successfully launched this morning from the same slips as the Oceanic. From 6 o'clock workmen were busy knocking away the shores, &c., which retained her in place, and by 10 o'clock only the bilge blocks remained. In a few minutes more these too were removed, and the ship was kept back only by steel triggers controlled by hydraulic pressure.

Almost punctually at the appointed hour of 10.15, Mr. A. M. Carlisle, the manager of Messrs. Harland and Wolff's yard, opened the valve of the hydraulic cylinder. The water rushed out, the triggers fell back, and, relieved from restraining pressure, the huge mass within a few seconds began to slide down the ways, which had previously been lubricated with some 9 tons of tallow and black soap. At first the motion was almost imperceptible, but the velocity quickly increased, so that in about 54 seconds the ship had travelled her own length to the end of the slips and was tearing through the water, which she took at a speed of 12 knots.

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NORTH OF THE THAMES

FULHAM
Attractive Victorian terraced spacious 3 bedroom, double reception house, kitchen/breakfast room, sunny patio garden.
FHLD £179,995.
071 385 7083.

ISLINGTON, N1.
Dream Living / Working space besides canal
Spacious modern 3 floor town house with unique open design, North facing floor to ceiling window, Fully fitted kitchen, 2/3 Bedrooms, Private parking. Tube 5 mins walk. 990 Lease. Immediate Occupancy.
£185,000. Private sale
(O) 0171 837 8215
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MERCHANT BANKER'S DREAM HOUSE
10 mins from City
LOUGHTON
Splendid house in superb setting.
6 bedrooms.
£485,000 Freehold.
071 739 6466

THAMES REACH W6
Stunning riverside apartment, double reception room southfacing over the river leading onto private 20 ft deck, 2 bedrooms/2 bathrooms, fully fitted kitchen, underground garage, lift, security.
Share FHLD £385,000.
(0171) 386 7446 (H)
937 2415 (O).

E1 GRADE II C1830
Terrace hse nr City & Docks. Charming rustic style, 30' x 14' semi open plan. Rec/kit/dng, 3 bds, orig. features: cast iron fire places, strip. flrs/drs/panelling. Exposed bricks, walled gdn.
£115,000 FH
0171 790 5954

FULHAM CONSERVATION AREA
Immaculate 4 bed/2 bath Vict terr house with orig features. Lge kit/diner, dble reception & wine cellar /storage rm. Pretty patio garden.
£257,000 ono
Private Sale
071 371 0571

HARROW ON THE HILL
Light, spacious, two bedroom flat in attractive period house with gas central heating. Carpeted throughout. Original fireplaces. Fully fitted large kitchen leading to patio. Off street parking.
£129,000.
081 864 8109.

LANCASTER GATE W2
2 bed split level flat with roof terrace, private off street parking, porter. 1 min tube & park, recently refurbished, excellent order throughout.
£147,500
. Tel: Wk 081 752 4412 Hm 071 262 8109

PRIMROSE HILL /REGENTS PARK
4 storey period house backing onto Regents Canal private mooring rights, pretty gdn. F/F pine dining/kit, sitting rm, drawing rm, 2 dble bedrms, 2 sngle, 2 bathrms, cloaks + s/c gdn flat with 3 rooms & bath
£650,000
Tel 071 267 2423
Fax 071 267 4759
No Agents

QUEENS PARK NW6
Spacious 3 bed terrace, with leafy 50' gdn. Fully modernised. In conservation area nr park & tube. Handy West End. Easy pkg.
£180,000
. Tel: 0171 328 1378

WESTCROFT SQ LONDON W6
Spacious 5 bed, 2 bath family house+ s/c flat. Premier position in beautiful Victorian Square. Sunny walled garden. Close tube & access to M4
£340,000
Tel 0181 748 0035

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

CLAPHAM COMMON SW4
Superb bright and sunny 4 bed Victorian house in quiet road off Clapham Common Southside. Double recep, large kitchen/dining room, 4 dble beds, 2 baths, downstairs W.C. Pretty 50 ft. south facing garden. *£215,000 Freehold.*
Tel: 071 622 9495.

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

BARNES Sunny 3 bed mansion flat. View over playing fields to river. £169k. 0181 748 0296.

GRADE II REGENCY
SW2. Dble fronted hse in conservation area opp. Park. 3 rec, studio, 4 bd, 2 bth, gge, pkg, walled gdn. Excel cond.
£185,000
0171 274 9140

CLAPHAM PARK SW4
Elegant Victorian detached with adjoining cottage. House 4 bed, 2 bath (1 ensuite), 2 sep WC, 2 drawing, study, dining, Poole Rees kitchen, lge conserv, games, laundry, lge enrich gdn. Cottage living, kitchen, 2 beds, bath, patio gdn. O/S, 3 cars. Ideal prof working from home. £475,000. F/Hold. Tel 0171 622 5221

STREATHAM
Spacious two double bed flat, large reception, modern kitchen, bathroom, utility. Gas central heating. 8 mins walk Streatham BR station.
124 yr lease
£55,000 for quick sale.
0181 677 2849 home,
0171 202 5732 office.

BALHAM SW12
2 bdrm gdn flat in Victorian semi. Close to shops & transport.
£72,000
0171 498 2295

SOUTH OF THE THAMES

WANDSWORTH - Period terrace hse. 3 beds. 1 bath. 1 shwr. 2 recep. Fitted kit. Bth facing patio gdn. £142,000 FH. Call Craigie & Co 0181 874 7475. Sunday 0181 878 0962.

PUTNEY SW15. 3 bed flat nr River/Bridge. £119,950. Cooney Dully 0181 785 2229.

SE3
Grad fr flat of very lge Regency house, standing in own grnds. Close Greenwich Park, Heath & BR. 20 mins Victoria or Charing Cross. 4 large bdrms (1 was billiard rm), 2 lge recep, 2 bth, French windows all rooms. Modernised. Freehold.
£375,000 o.n.o.
0181 852 1666

TELEGRAPH HILL SE14
Spacious Victorian family house in quiet conservation area, facing park with panoramic views over London. 4 bed; 3 recep; 2 kits; 3 wc; 2 bdrms; CH. Landscaped 90' gdn. London Bridge 6 mins. No chain.
£155,000 F/hold
0171 732 1832

WEST PUTNEY SW15
Recently refurb mid terraced hse in peaceful pvtn close. 2 rec (split level), 4 bed, 2 bth, gge. S.facing patio leading to lge walled communal gdn inc. prvt tennis court.
Offers over £225,000
Tel: 0181 789 7492

CITY & WEST END

BARBICAN East facing flat. Views over landscaped podium redecorated and new carpets £59,000. Frank Harris & Company 0171 600 7000.

BARBICAN/City. April list of flats for sale from £58,000. Frank Harris a Company 0171 600 7000.

BARBICAN Shakespeare tower. 2 bedrooms, study. 2 bathrooms, fully equipped kitchen, large sitting room. Incl F & F £175,000. Tel 0171 226 4698

WAPPING - 2035 sq ft 2 bed 2 bath apt. 34'x22 ft recep. Overlking Thames, balcony & pking. £350,000. 071 480 6815

W1 MEWS house. 3 beds. 3 bathrms. lge recep. single ops 118 yr lse. £415,000 for quick sale Wallaway 0171 224 0969

WC1 Studio flat in portered mansion blk. 6th flr. 110 yrs. £49K Bunbury Neal 0171 404 3422

COVENT GARDEN
Broad Court.
Newly dec. 2 bed flat with balcony in quiet prestigious walkway opp. Opera House.
£185,000.
Tel: 0171 735 5375.

PENTHOUSE NARROW ST, E14
Rec rm 17x17, 4th flr. FF sep kitch. 2 bed, ensuite & guest bath. All rms over R. Thames. Lge B/fast/Lge. Day rm. Sec G/G Prg.
£215,000 LH
TOWER BRIDGE JAVA WHARF, SE1
1 bed, FF kit. 2 at Cnptd. flats, rec with balc over Shad Thames. Rms 7 bsmt. Dep part. Vid con gge. Sec U/G Prg. £99,000 LH
BURRELLS WHARF ISLE OF DOGS, E14
2 bed, FF kit. bath, recep rm 19x13. 2 beds. View of Dk. & distant Bridge. 24 hr port. Lift flr. Sec ist. Sec U/G pkg. £87,500 LH
Property Lissons
0171 712 9648

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HATHAWAYS: Ashley Gardens SW1. Lower ground fl. 3 rms, kitchen & shower. Lse 114 yrs + Share FH. OIRO £165,000. 77 Buckingham Gate SW1 0171 222 3133

PORTLAND PLACE, W1. Luxurious family-sized apt £425,000. ALBERT HALL SW7 (close) Bright spacious 2 bd, 2 bth fl. £290,000. ST JOHN'S WOOD. NW8 garden aspects. 3 bed 3rd flr flat. Prestige blk £120,000 Linross & Co Tel/Fax: 0171 602 6664.

PIMLICO
1 bed, ground floor flat in residential street. Spacious reception with high ceiling, lots of bookshelves and original cornicing. Very appealing, must be seen. Residents' parking. Use of Warwick Square Gardens.
QUICK SALE £110,000.
Telephone
0171 630 6576

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BURNHAM BEECHES
Spacious detached home, recently constructed, situated off gated private drive serving two properties, 10 mins from M4 & M40. Ctrl London 25 mins commute. Luxury specification comprising Drawing rm, Dining rm, study, fitted kitchen, cloakroom, utility rm, Master suite 16'x16' with dressing rm & bathrm, 4 further bedrms, family bathrm, dble garage £299,500.
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DOUBLE FRONTED PERIOD PROPERTY
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LADIES FASHION BUSINESS also avail with above.
SEDGWICK EVANS
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TEWKSBURY KING JOHNS ISLAND
Immaculate 3 dble bed en suite luxury appointed, high specification Tirrea house. Garage. Overlooking marina. Potential holiday rental. £4,700 on 24 wk letting.
£74,000 ono
Tel 06842775002

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DITTISHAM ON DART
perfect for extended settling family, manned house in Dartside apple orchard. 5 beds, 2½ baths, large sunny living room. Fireplaces. Architect designed kitchen, games room.
View Easter 0171 607 4989.

COTSWOLDS

EASTLEACH An idyllic country retreat 2 bedroom detached stone cottage of great character, gardens and parking. Price guide £149,500 Moore, Allen & Innocent 01367 252641

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

THRIPLOW
Magnificent period style residence, ½ acre grnds o'looking meadows. Central pos., sought-after conservation village. 5 mins fr Jnc.10/M11, Bt 1990 (NHBC), luxuriously appointed, 5 bds, 2 bths, cks, 3 recs, fully fit. kit., brkfst & util. Dbl gge blk incs. s/c annexe, entr., cks, lrg grnd flr rm & 1st flr offices.
Offers considered on £310,000.
Tel: 01763 208172/ 208551

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CHARACTER COTTAGE
Large 4 bed detached 18th Century cottage. Quiet rural location yet only 3 miles from Junction 5 of M40. Wealth of beams, inglenook fire place, bread oven etc. Excellent condition, large garden.
£230,000
01494 483362

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

THRIPLOW
Magnificent period style residence, ½ acre grnds o'looking meadows. Central pos., sought-after conservation village. 5 mins fr Jnc.10/M11, Bt 1990 (NHBC), luxuriously appointed, 5 bds, 2 bths, cks, 3 recs, fully fit. kit., brkfst & util. Dbl gge blk incs. s/c annexe, entr., cks, lrg grnd flr rm & 1st flr offices.
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Suite 1 - 1,000 sq ft
Suite 2 - 1,500 sq ft
Suite 3 - 2,500 sq ft
Suite 4 - 3,500 sq ft
Suite 5 - 5,000 sq ft
Suite 6 - 7,000 sq ft
Suite 7 - 10,000 sq ft
Suite 8 - 15,000 sq ft
Suite 9 - 20,000 sq ft
Suite 10 - 25,000 sq ft
Suite 11 - 30,000 sq ft
Suite 12 - 40,000 sq ft
Suite 13 - 50,000 sq ft
Suite 14 - 60,000 sq ft
Suite 15 - 70,000 sq ft
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Suite 309 - 3,010,000 sq ft
Suite 310





The neat perspective: formal gardens and rolling parkland at Lindridge Park, Devon, left, and the knot gardens at Ludstone Hall, Shropshire

How does your value grow?

To the keen gardener, a well cared-for and pleasing piece of land can make or break a sale. Christine Webb reports

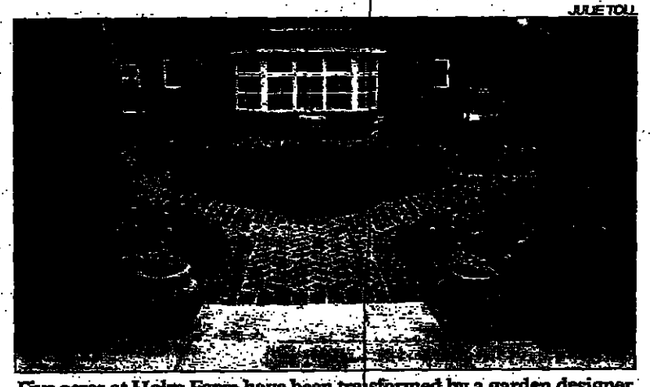
Gardening, probably the fastest-growing hobby in Britain, can help to nurture the price of your property. The agent Hamptons estimates that a beautiful garden can add up to 20 per cent to a property's price.

Patrick Ramsay, of Knight Frank & Rutley, says: "The desire to do up a garden is as strong as the desire to do up a house was a few years ago. Gardening has become fashionable." The company is selling Waterlane House, a £1.25 million Grade-II * listed Cotswold stone house at Salterton, Gloucestershire. Its owners have restored the formal gardens and created a walled and white garden. Contracts have recently been exchanged.

John Brain, Hamptons' chairman, says: "Those things that are the best in an English country garden, such as arboreta, pergolas, gazebos, follies and canals, all provide an ambience that creates value. If a buyer is particularly keen on plants, gardens achieve a sale. One at Haslemere, Surrey, had a superb collection of azaleas and rhododendrons in a parkland setting which attracted someone who wanted just that sort of garden."

A good example of gardens that suit a house are the knot gardens at Ludstone Hall at Claverley, Shropshire, which Savills is marketing at £2 million. Clipped yew and holly hedges back on to a lake and parkland. The Grade I listed house dates from 1610 and its garden complements it perfectly, setting the scene for the panelling and ornate plasterwork inside.

JULIE TOLL



Five acres at Holm Farm have been transformed by a garden designer

Formal gardens and acres of rolling parkland are a major selling point for a new development of 21 houses at Lindridge Park, near Teignmouth, Devon. On the site of a medieval manor house that was demolished after a fire, six houses have been built to look like a period stately home. The old stables are about to be converted into another nine houses. The price ranges from £225,000 to £275,000 and four of the first phase of seven have been sold. Sterndale, the developer, has spent £175,000 on restoring the gardens, laid out in the 1920s by the then owner, Lord Cable, to include clipped hedges, an Italian garden and a temple. There is a pool, tennis courts, croquet lawn and paddock.

An independent management company run by householders will cover the costs of running the park. Knight Frank & Rutley, the selling agent, says the estate offers "country-style living with none of the drawbacks".

Another builder, St George, also recognises the draw of an attractive garden. It hired a designer to create a modern garden for the showhouse at Sycamore Mews, a new development of 40 dwellings in Clapham, south London. Tony Carey, managing director, says: "In towns you have to know how to use this small space well. Most people don't want to mow the lawn, but they do want a barbecue or a place to sit for some peace."

In this case, the company used Julie Toll, the Chelsea Flower Show gold medallist of BBC2's *Gardens By Design* fame. She split the 30ft by 16ft garden into a patio, with three steps up to a terrace with a bench. "It's affordable," Mr Carey says. "Anyone can make their garden like that inexpensively."

Not all Mrs Toll's work is so modest. Grander projects include the garden for a large house in the New Forest, which is now on the market. Mrs Toll's fees are usually about 10 per cent of a project's costs. Her work starts with a garden survey, then design ideas are sketched out and planting is planned. Designers can advise on garden restoration as well as new schemes.

Holm Farm, at Sway, near Lymington, Hampshire, once had no recognisable garden, but its five acres have been transformed by Mrs Toll into a garden described as "stunning" by Stephen Montague-Jones, the G A Town & Country agent who is selling the £1.5 million Edwardian property.

Near the house is a quartered rose garden planted to match the colourscheme of the room that overlooks it; there is also a timber and brick pergola, and a fruit-tree maze bearing peaches, nectarines, grapes, apricots and raspberries. Further from the house, £5,000 worth of native shrubs and trees were planted and in spring there is a carpet of bluebells.

Mr Montague-Jones says: "The garden is beautifully sculpted to provide grassed bumps for the children to ride their bikes over and areas to play games. The whole garden is lit up at night like a fairyland. The house is sumptuous, has glorious views, and the garden adds immensely to its value. The right buyer will pay quite a premium for the package."

Weak demand for the weekenders' cottage

The days of the second home in the country seem to be fading

Every Friday evening a great exodus of estate cars crawls westwards on the M4 towards the fabled countryside that lies somewhere beyond the Chiswick flyover. That at least is how modern London *mythology* goes.

In his 1980s heyday, the weekender was a power in the land. There was scarcely a cottage "full of character" within 100 miles of London that would not command a fabulous price, and hardly an "unspoilt village" without its *nouveaux arrivistes*. In particularly favoured areas, weekenders could profoundly affect the social structure of communities and in West Dorset, for example, there were villages whose weekday population consisted of two or three families of marooned farmworkers, but which were awash with people for two days a week.

Now times have changed. "Four or five years ago, weekenders represented 25 per cent of our business," Peter McLean, of Hamptons estate agents in Pewsey, Wiltshire, says. "But in the past 12 months we've sold perhaps two properties to weekenders. Their influence has become negligible."

In Suffolk, another fashionable county for second homes, Mark Olive, of Savills' Ipswich office, says: "Weekenders used to be a common breed, but in 1989 they faded out very quickly. The three-bedroom cottage they used to go for has dropped in value by about a third since their withdrawal from the market."

Agents agree that a dearth of City bonuses, concern for job security and worry about interest rates, have created a general lack of confidence and a feeling that a second home is a luxury that can no longer be afforded.

But the weekenders who are so ardently lamented by agents are blamed for the decline in low-cost village houses available for local people, forcing the children of the village to move away.

Yet the Discontented Tendency might reflect on the dilapidated cottages that would have fallen down without outsider money, on the builders and tradesmen who have survived thanks to the weekenders' deep pockets, and on the gardeners, dailies, mothers' helps and odd-job men whose wages were paid by the wealth brought from the City.

Weekenders were also identified as those opposed to change, particularly to anything which might benefit the indigenous villagers. It is true that many of those in weekend or permanent flight from the cities are drawn to the countryside by a romantic conservatism that depends upon an archaic vision of rural England: the squire is in his hall, old retainers still live in happy thrall to a benevolent despotism and the parson wears riding boots under his cassock.

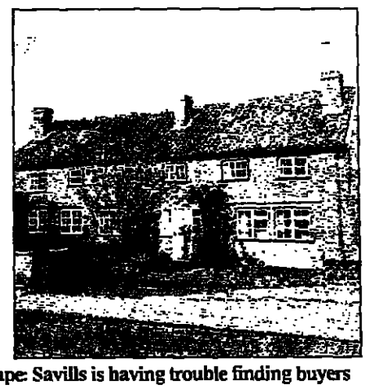
But these sentiments arouse a passionate commitment to the village and its institutions. All over England it is the weekender and the urban expatriate who fight to prevent the closure of the parish church and the village school, who write letters and organise petitions to save the country bus and the post office, who run the village fete and support the amenity societies and who volunteer to work as local councillors.

At a time when so much that was familiar has disappeared under concrete and when even the idea of Englishness has been expunged from the cities, England has become memorialised in her villages.

As one of the defenders of that last barricade, the weekender is much missed and his return anxiously awaited.

DAVID LOVIBOND





Suffolk cottages at Bedfield, left, and at Snape: Savills is having trouble finding buyers

SUSSEX

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THE TIMES TODAY WEDNESDAY APRIL 5 1995

NEWS

Ex-minister's attack on Bottomley

■ Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, was facing a backbench Tory revolt over the closure of London hospitals after one of her former Cabinet colleagues accused her of lacking the "moral courage" to defend her decisions in the Commons.

The extraordinary attack came from Peter Brooke, the former National Heritage Secretary, after she confirmed plans to close St Bartholomew's Hospital and run down Guy's Hospital .....Page 1

Cash-for-questions MPs are banned

■ Conservative MPs David Tredinnick and Graham Riddick will be banned from the House of Commons after Easter for being prepared to accept £1,000 to table questions to ministers .....Pages 1, 2, 8

BBC may appeal

The BBC was considering an appeal to the European Court of Justice after losing its right to broadcast in Scotland a banned *Panorama* interview with John Major .....Pages 1, 5

Non-nuclear RAF

The RAF is to lose its nuclear role after 42 years with the announcement that the WE177 freefall bomb is to be scrapped in 1998 .....Page 1

Kenny Everett dies

Kenny Everett, the disc jockey with an outrageously manic sense of humour, has died aged 50 from an Aids-related illness .....Page 1

Clarke tax warning

Kenneth Clarke told Conservative MPs that expectations about cuts in taxation over the next two years were in danger of running out of control .....Page 2

Boy's body found

Police believe that they have found the body of Daniel Handley, the nine-year-old missing from east London since October, in a shallow grave near Bristol .....Page 3

Star tells of attack

The actor who plays Ricky Butcher in the television soap *East-Enders* told a court that he was the victim of an unprovoked attack in a nightclub, a "hassle" of being well-known .....Page 3

Child B treatment

The 10-year-old girl known as child B, who was refused leukaemia treatment by her health authority, is to undergo an experimental transfusion technique .....Page 5

Expanding universe

The universe may contain twice as many galaxies as astronomers suspected, according to a new survey of the sky, which says that they have been overlooked because they are faint .....Page 6

County Hall delay

The Japanese owners of County Hall in London have admitted it could take another 20 years to develop the site as the Government was criticised for its handling of the sale .....Page 8

War tax demand

Hutu extremists have demanded a war tax from refugees in Tanzania, saying that their only hope was to join Hutu militia and Rwanda's former army for a re-invasion of the country ....Page 11

Muslim victory

Bosnian government forces have made an important military gain by driving the Serbs off a strategic mountain .....Page 10

Summit failure

A summit conference on global warming is slipping into chaos with the chances of any meaningful agreements looking increasingly slim .....Page 9

After 100 years, Matilda waltzes on

■ Tomorrow thousands of *Waltzing Matilda* fans, including Paul Keating, the Australian Prime Minister, will gather in Winton, Queensland, to mark the centenary of the composition of the country's unofficial national anthem. But Australian faith in the song may be somewhat shaken by the suggestion that the tune originated in Britain .....Page 9



John Major and President Clinton in the White House yesterday. The President said relations with Britain were "good and strong". Page 2

BUSINESS

Merger: GRT and Badgerline, are merging to form Britain's second largest coach company ..... Page 21

Regional aid: A cross-party committee of MPs is poised to publish a critical report into the Government's regional economic assistance programme ..... Page 21

Wharf expansion: Canary Wharf is planning to begin construction of new buildings at the London Docklands complex following a letting agreement with BZW ..... Page 21

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index jumped 45 points to close at 3,188.1. Sterling's trade weighted index slid from 85.0 to 84.8 as the pound fell from $1.6170 to $1.6033 as the dollar rebounded. It recovered from DM2.2190 to DM2.2217 ..... Page 24

SPORT

Football: Boys aged nine could be randomly tested as part of the Football Association's new campaign against players taking drugs ..... Page 40

Cricket: West Indies have recalled Keith Arthurton in place of Sherwin Campbell for the second Test against Australia, starting in Antigua on Saturday ..... Page 40

Rugby union: The Welsh Rugby Union is committed to maintaining Cardiff Arms Park as its headquarters. Redevelopment for the World Cup may cost £100 million Page 36

Golf: Ron Townsend, 53, a television executive who was born in Jacksonville, Florida, is the only black member of the Augusta National Club ..... Page 36

Summer in Europe: The second part of our guide to summer festivals presents the highlights of cultural events in Europe ..... Page 31

Day of reckoning: Dennis Lumborg's powerful social drama *One Fine Day* tackles that most topical of social issues: an accusation of child abuse ..... Page 30

Not second-best: The Rotterdam Philharmonic may not be as well known as its illustrious neighbour, the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra, but a new British tour shows that this is no second-division band ..... Page 30

Out of the pit: The of the Royal Opera House orchestra took centre-stage at the Wigmore Hall in a programme of ensemble pieces ..... Page 30

No banking on it: You can be in banking for 17 years and still be made redundant, as Peter Duckett discovered ..... Page 13

Douglas Fairbanks Jr: The movie star talks to Julia Llewellyn Smith about the second volume of his autobiography ..... Page 13

Wild cats: The animal-print designs of Ninivah Khomo are spot on for today's fierce glamour, reports Iain R. Webb ..... Page 12

Weak ending: Why that middle-class refuge, the weekend cottage, is losing its popularity ..... Page 19

Guinness Enigma: The brewer launches a new lager ..... Page 28

Turkey's invasion of northen Iraq to hunt down Kurdish guerillas is now in its third week. The conflict may appear obscure to Americans but it is deceptively dangerous
—The New York Times

The idea that John Major, under assault from David Dimbleby, might occasion an upsurge of tartan support for the Tories would be laughable if the ban were't so serious
—Evening Standard



IN THE TIMES

■ DUMB MOVES
Geoff Brown on *Dumb and Dumber*, with Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels

■ NEW TERRITORY
Peter Ackroyd reviews Simon Schama's invigorating unearthing of myths

Preview: How white-collar criminals adjust to life in Ford Open Prison is the subject of Nick O'Dwyer's revealing documentary *Modern Times: Open Prison* (BBC2, 9.00pm) **Review:** Lynne Truss inclines to Hunter Davies's view that Manchester United is now more a business phenomenon than a football club .....Page 39

Out of court

The political censors have won this battle. It would be a serious defeat for freedom of expression were they to win the war .....Page 15

To save Burundi

The West has spent an estimated $1 billion in aid to rebuild Rwanda after that country's disintegration. Cannot even a fraction of that sum be spent today on protecting the people of Burundi? .....Page 15

Strictly Olympian

The ballrooms of Streatham and Penge are full of devoted competitive dancers who would give their favourite spangled shirt for the opportunity to be an Olympian .....Page 15

SIMON JENKINS

There is of course no special relationship between Britain and America. There is something deeply obscure called American foreign policy, and there is something deeply strong called the Anglo-American cultural tie ..... Page 14

GORDON BROWN

The unresolved question about the current state of the economy is why investment is failing to recover from the recession, while Britain's investment is so much lower than those of our competitors ..... Page 14

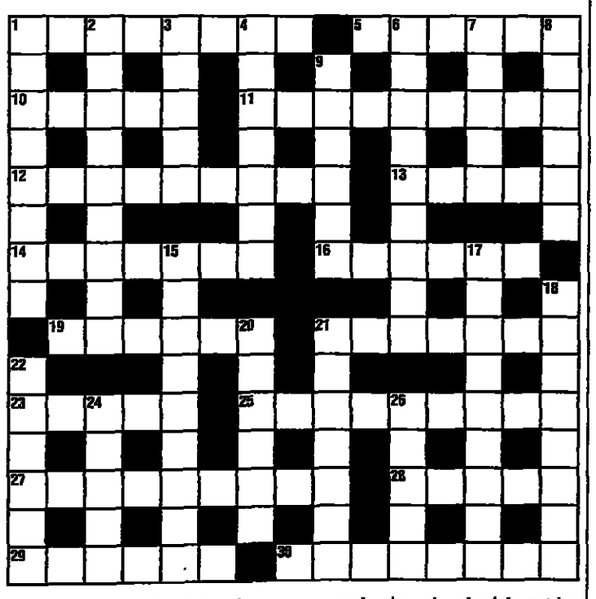
ALAN COREN

What could more appeal to back-to-basics fans than the notion that New Labour was a home fit for heroes prepared to stand up to all that Johnny Turk could throw at them to protect the honour of British womanhood? .....Page 14

Kenny Everett, disc jockey; **Franz Stampfl**, atheletics coach; **the Hon David Herbert**, writer and aesthete ..... Page 17

Scottish ruling on *Panorama*; recall of child sex abuse ..... Page 15

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,821



1 Model reason for lack of secretarial work? (8)
5 Gratitude for heroic leader in fighting vehicles (6)
10 Sailor has the last word about fish (5)
11 Help backward island to become accessible (9)
12 What can be used for light finger bowl? (9)
13 On balance, this could be due when one coming out has it (5)
14 One bird wounded another (7)
16 Pavilion gape at young lad's premature end (6)
19 My clue makes light of school (6)
21 What could give us resin with light appearance (7)
23 Caught by archbishop's ring (5)
25 Drink with joint, offering several rounds at table? (5,4)
27 Desert ship about end of watch, given time I might not be noticed (9)
28 Type, we hear, of heavenly food (5)
29 Wait on a result following race (6)
30 Wake guard with present (8).

DOWN
1 Trial television used for experimental programme (4,4)
2 Inlaid work for make of car on trial (9)
3 Security device required in chancel at church (5)
4 Loose robe, sort of new toga (3,4)
6 Usual quantity of the other clue number (4-5)
7 Decline, it's said, to curtsey for important person (5)
8 Solve just the odd occurences? He might (6)
9 Docile pet upset faithful friend nonetheless (6)
15 Always vigorous in retaining one's popularity long-term (9)
17 In her country cranks bat in rain (9)
18 Rating player's cards at bottom of the pack (4-4)
20 Substance one of the winds removed from mountain (6)
21 Listen, a drunken toast (7)
22 Accountant accepts bill individual presented for plant (6)
24 A role for *Neighbours*? Definitely not (5)
26 Satisfied when climbing with the exercise in beautiful valley (5)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,820

F	O	R	E	T	O	P		M	I	N	I	C	A	B
O		E		A		O		U		O		O		U
R	E	F	E	R	R	I	N	G		N	E	W	E	L
E		R		P		N		E		B		L		
S	C	E	N	A		T	I	G	H	T	N	E	S	S
T		S		U		O		R			L		E	
	T	H	E	L	I	F	E	O	F	R	I	L	E	Y
O		I		V		U		E			E			
U	N	M	E	N	T	I	O	N	A	B	L	E	S	
O		E		E		D		E		X		S		
T	O	M	A	H	A	W	K	S		L	A	P	E	L
A		E		O			H		L		A		E	
B	I	N	G	O		O	B	E	D	I	E	N	C	E
L		T		C		W		E		O		S		P
E	P	O	C	H	A	L		T	A	N	N	E	R	Y

Times Two Crossword, page 40

TIMES WEATHERCALL

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Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	735
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: Herne Bay, and Manston, Kent, 19C (66F); lowest day max: Sella Ness, Shetland 05C (41F); highest rainfall: Cape Wrath, Highland, 0.58in, highest sunshine: Ross-on-Wye, Hereford & Worcester, 11.1hr

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FORECAST

☐ **General:** northern parts will have rain at times. The south should stay mainly dry. Wales and much of central and southern England will start dry, and, in favoured spots in central and eastern areas, quite bright. Thicker cloud and outbreaks of rain in the northwest will spread east and south but amounts of rain in the south will be very small. Scotland and Northern Ireland will find cloud and rain in the west to begin the day, slowly clearing from central Scotland in the afternoon. The far north of Scotland will have a showery day.

☐ **London, E Anglia, Midlands, N Wales:** mist patches clearing and most places dry and bright. Patchy rain will spread in later. Winds, SW moderate. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **SE, SW & Central S England, Channel Isles, S Wales:** mainly dry, cloudy, misty start, becoming brighter inland. Winds, SW moderate. Max 12C (54F) on the coast, max 15C (59F) inland.

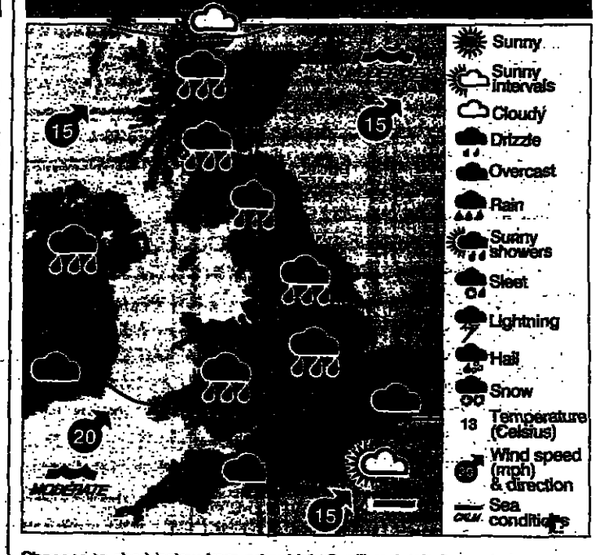
☐ **E England:** cloudy, patchy rain later. Winds, SW moderate locally fresh. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **NW & NE England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, SW Scotland, Glasgow:** cloudy rain at times, locally quite heavy. Winds, SW moderate locally fresh. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands:** cloudy, rain at times becoming mainly dry. Winds SW, moderate. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Moray Firth, NE & NW Scotland, Orkney:** bright or clear intervals and showery rain becoming mainly dry. Winds, SW moderate. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **Outlook:** rain will retreat northeastwards, allowing all except northern Scotland a dry, quite warm spell. Patchy rain coming south on Friday will be followed by cooler weather.



Changes to chart below from noon: high G will maintain its central pressure. Low K will fill in situ and lose its identity. Low M will also start to fill and drift north.



WEATHER

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.09	6	43	r	Liverpool	8.1	-	12	54	s
Anglesey	-	-	11	52	c	London	10.6	-	18	64	s
Aspatria	1.2	-	11	52	du	Lowestoft	10.7	-	16	61	s
Aviemore	-	0.03	6	43	r	Manchester	1.5	-	12	54	c
Belfast	3.0	-	12	54	c	Margate	9.7	-	18	64	s
Birmingham	6.4	-	16	61	b	Minehead	X				
Bognor R	6.0	-	12	54	s	Morecambe	0.4	-	10	50	du
Bournem'th	4.7	-	14	57	s	Newcastle	2.4	-	13	55	c
Bristol	X					Newquay	-	-	10	50	c
Buxton	1.7	-	10	50	du	Norwich	X				
Cardiff	-	-	10	50	c	Nottingham	X				
Clacton	9.5	-	17	63	s	Oxford	3.3	-	13	55	c
Colwyn Bay	5.9	-	13	55	b	Penzance	-	-	11	52	c
Cromer	9.0	-	13	55	s	Plymouth	-	-	9	48	du
Doncaster	3.0	-	13	55	c	Poole	2.9	-	16	61	b
Dunbar	X					Prestatyn	X		14	57	c
Eastbourne	3.9	-	11	52	b	Ross-o-wye	11.1	-	15	59	s
Edinburgh	7.7	-	11	52	b	Salcombe	-	-	11	52	c
Eskdalemuir	1.8	0.02	11	52	sh	Sandown	5.5	-	13	55	s
Exmouth	0.4	-	11	52	c	Saunton Snd	-	-	10	50	c
Falmouth	X	-	11	52	c	Scarboro'	8.2	-	12	54	b
Fishguard	-	-	9	48	d	Scilly Isles	-	-	10	50	g
Folkestone	8.4	-	13	55	s	Shanklin	5.4	-	13	55	s
Glasgow	0.3	0.03	12	54	r	Shrewsbury	7.0	-	12	54	b
Guernsey	-	-	12	54	c	Skegness	8.3	-	14	57	s
Hastings	7.1	-	13	55	b	Southend	10.2	-	17	63	s
Hayling I.	6.1	-	14	57	b	Southport	8.0	-	11	52	s
Herne Bay	10.1	-	19	66	s	Southsea	6.1	-	14	57	s
Hove	X					Stornoway	6.0	0.31	9	48	b
Hunstanton	5.9	-	12	54	b	Swanage	-	-	11	52	c
Ilfracombe	X					Teignmouth	2.6	-	12	54	c
Isle of Man	3.6	-	12	54	b	Tenby	-	-	10	50	c
Jersey	-	-	13	55	c	Tiree	-	0.09	9	48	r
Kinloss	0.5	0.33	6	43	r	Torquay	3.6	-	15	61	b
Leeds	X					Tynemouth	-	-	13	55	c
Lerwick	8.2	-	5	41	sn	Ventnor	0.2	-	11	52	c
Leuchars	1.7	0.02	13	55	r	Weymouth	-	-	10	50	c
Littlehmptn	7.8	-	13	55	b						

These are Monday's figures

ABROAD

Ajaccio	16	61	s	C'phagn	4	39	c	Madrid	20	68	s
Alicnte	16	61	s	Corfu	-	-	-	Majorca	22	72	s
Alex'dria	17	63	s	Dublin	13	55	c	Malaga	21	70	f
Algiers	24	75	s	Dubrovnik	18	64	s	Malta	17	63	f
Amst'dm	10	50	s	Faro	23	73	s	Melb'rne	23	73	f
Athens	-	-	-	Florence	18	64	f	Mexico C	23	73	f
Bahrain	27	81	s	Frankfurt	14	57	f	Miami	24	75	f
Bangkok	30	86	f	Funchal	19	66	s	Milan	19	66	f
Barbados	30	86	s	Geneva	20	68	s	Montreal	7	45	sh
Barcelona	18	64	s	Gibraltar	18	64	s	Moscow	3	37	f
Beirut	15	59	f	Helsinki	1	34	sn	Munich	19	66	f
Belgrade	25	77	s	Hong K	17	63	f	Nairobi	26	79	f
Berlin	7	45	f	Innsbruck	22	72	f	Naples	17	63	f
Bermuda	18	64	f	Istanbul	15	59	s	N Delhi	28	82	s
Biarritz	14	57	c	Jeddah	26	79	s	N York	12	54	c
Borde'x	13	55	c	Jo'burg	20	68	f	Nice	16	61	s
Brussels	14	57	f	Karachi	-	-	-	Oslo	7	45	s
Budapst	21	70	f	L Palmas	24	75	s	Paris	12	54	c
B Aires	26	79	s	Le Touet	13	55	f	Peking	17	63	c
Cairo	19	66	f	Lisbon	19	66	s	Perth	22	72	s
Cape Tn	24	75	s	Locarno	18	64	s	Prague	13	55	s
Chicago	13	55	s	L Angels	19	66	s	Reykjavik	-2	28	f
Ch'church	14	57	-	Luxembg	12	54	c	Rio de J	23	73	f
Cologne	13	55	c	Luxor	23	73	s	Riyadh	29	84	f

Rome	16	61	f	Salzburg	21	70	f
S F'isco	15	59	s	Santiago	30	86	s
S Paulo	25	77	f	Seoul	13	55	s
Sing'por	28	79	t	Sr'kholm	6	43	s
Sraslv'ng	22	72	s	Sydney	21	70	s
Tangier	20	68	f	Tel Aviv	18	61	c
Tenerife	24	75	s	Toronto	12	54	f
Tunis	24	75	s	Valencia	19	66	s
Vanc'ver	12	54	s	Venice	16	61	f
Vienna	21	70	f	Warsaw	6	43	r
Washton	16	61	s	Wel'ngton	16	61	f
Zurich	19	66	s				

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

TIDES

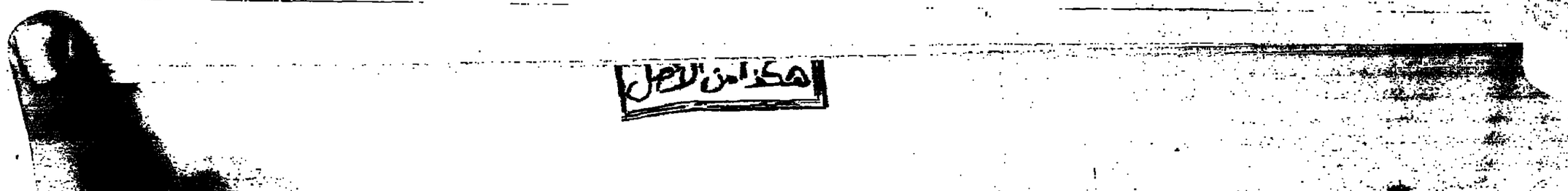
	AM	HT	PM	HT		AM	HT	PM	HT
TODAY					TODAY				
London Bridge	4:30	6.76	4:47	6.73	Leith	5:16	4.95	5:44	4.83
Aberdeen	4:10	3.83	4:36	3.77	Liverpool	1:46	8.62	2:08	8.39
Avonmouth	9:57	11.93	10:25	11.79	Lowestoft	0:07	2.32	0:23	2.26
Belfast	1:50	3.44	2:11	3.24	Margate	2:31	4.47	2:49	4.40
Cardiff	9:50	10.63	9:58	10.39	Milford Haven	9:02	6.12	9:14	6.07
Devonport	6:24	4.90	6:39	4.83	Newquay	7:58	5.90	8:17	5.79
Dover	1:34	5.21	1:57	5.08	Oban	5:25	3.49	5:30	3.48
Dublin	2:21	3.80	2:46	3.68	Penzance	7:30	4.85	7:49	4.79
Falmouth	8:00	4.42	8:21	4.34	Portland	9:20	1.64	9:29	1.64
Glasgow	3:43	4.50	4:07	4.43	Portsmouth	1:59	4.43	2:23	4.33
Harwich	2:28	3.73	2:42	3.61	Shoreham	1:39	5.74	2:02	5.60
Holyhead	0:55	5.11	1:20	4.92	Southampton	1:24	4.39	1:48	4.25
Hull	9:02	6.83	9:24	6.67	Swansea	9:09	8.53	9:21	8.40
Ilfracombe	8:44	8.02	8:53	7.86	Tees	5:32	4.79	5:54	4.69
King's Lynn	9:11	5.87	9:30	5.69	Wilton-on-Nze	2:16	3.94	2:33	3.86

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Sun rises: 6.28 am
Sun sets: 7.40 pm
Moon sets 12.23 am
Moon rises 9.15 am
First quarter April 8

London 7.40 pm to 6.28 am
Bristol 7.49 pm to 6.36 am
Edinburgh 7.58 pm to 6.32 am
Manchester 7.51 pm to 6.32 am
Penzance 8.00 pm to 6.49 am

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هذا من الأصل



PROPERTY 29

New signs of life in the London commercial market



ARTS 30, 31

Your guide to the Continent's summer festivals



SPORT 35-40

Screen test for the millions hoping to follow Jordan's trail

MARATHON: SEE HOW THEY RAN
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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — WEDNESDAY APRIL 5 1995

Merger to create £265m bus firm

By Sarah Bagnall

THE rapid consolidation within the bus industry continued apace yesterday with the planned merger of Badgerline and GRT to form the second-largest bus operator in the UK.

FirstBus, the new company, will have a market capitalisation of £265 million, a fleet of 5,600 vehicles and 14,400 staff. It made a combined pre-tax profit in 1994 of £24 million on turnover of about £350 million. In terms of turnover, FirstBus will have a market share of 11.1 per cent, behind Stagecoach's 15.1 per cent. Currently, Badgerline is third largest, with 9.8 per cent, and GRT is seventh largest, with 3.7 per cent.

The deal, seen by several analysts as a reverse takeover by GRT's management, involves issuing new shares in FirstBus, but there is no premium. However, according to the small print accompanying the offer, GRT shareholders "can expect an increase in the income derived from their shares of around 95 per cent". In contrast the dividend paid to Badgerline shareholders will remain at a similar level, although the actual level of future dividends will partly reflect the profit performance of FirstBus.

Under the deal, Badgerline shareholders are offered one FirstBus share for every share held, while GRT shareholders are offered 1.9 FirstBus shares for every share held.

Badgerline shareholders will hold 63.6 per cent of the enlarged group, with the balance of 36.4 per cent held by GRT shareholders. Currently about 20 per cent of both companies' equity is held by employees.

The planned merger lifted Badgerline shares by 5p, to 138p, and GRT's by 13p, to 269p. Badgerline's flotation price, in November 1993, was 115p. GRT's flotation price, in March 1994, was 160p.

Moir Lockhead, GRT chairman and the future chief executive of FirstBus, said that the companies had a good geographic mix, with little overlap. "The merger gives us the benefit of having a national market presence. It brings GRT into the south of England and Wales and allows Badgerline into Scotland."

GRT made an estimated pre-tax profit of £8 million in the year to March 31. Badgerline recorded a £16.7 million profit in the year to December 31. There is a marked difference in operating margins. GRT makes a margin on continuing operations of 14.7 per cent, against Badgerline's 9.5 per cent. Mr Lockhead said: "The key issue is to look for improvements in margins." The target is to lift margins to 14.7 per cent for the group as a whole over the next two years.

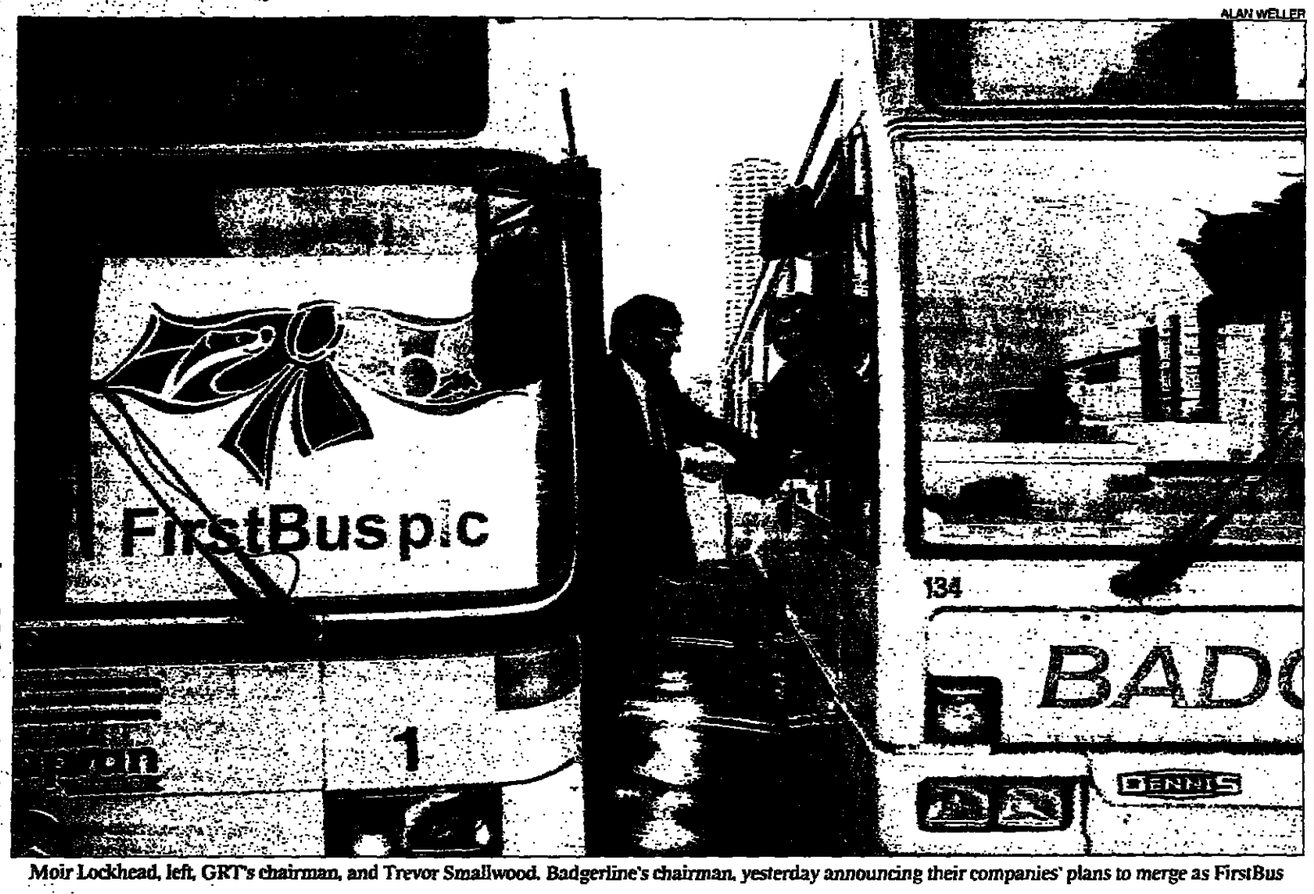
FirstBus hopes to do this by applying GRT's tested processes for increasing efficiency coupled with cost advantages from having critical mass in purchasing. FirstBus's combined vehicle, parts and fuel costs total £95 million. Trevor Smallwood, Badgerline chairman and the future FirstBus chairman, said that savings would be made by negotiating with major suppliers centrally. No job losses are on the agenda, he said.

Mr Smallwood said that FirstBus would continue to expand by acquisition. He said that there were plenty of opportunities with 35 per cent of the market not in the hands of the big players. The enlarged group will have gearing of about 100 per cent.

The merger needs shareholder approval. GRT's management own 30 per cent of its equity. At Badgerline, 11 per cent of the shares are in directors' hands.

The bus industry resembles a large aquarium: liberally stocked with species of wide different sizes, a few weeks after the owner stopped feeding them. Small wonder there are now about ten very big fish, and some very much smaller and nervous ones, lurking in the weeds.

Pennington, page 23



ALAN WELLER

Moir Lockhead, left, GRT's chairman, and Trevor Smallwood, Badgerline's chairman, yesterday announcing their companies' plans to merge as FirstBus

Shares leap to highest this year

SHARE prices on the London stock market surged to their highest levels so far this year, spurred by a burst of futures-related buying (Michael Clark writes).

The FT-SE 100 index of leading companies closed near its best of the day with a leap of 45 points at 3,188.1, cheered by an opening mark-up on Wall Street which saw the Dow Jones industrial average climb more than 20 points.

Financial markets will be surprised if the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England decide to move base rates at their monthly meeting this morning. Although Monday's money figures showed an acceleration in growth of M0, the narrow measure of money supply, this has been attributed to an exaggeration of seasonal factors before Easter.

A further half-point rise in base rates is expected during coming months, but market analysts think the authorities will stay their hand until the currency turmoil centred on the weak dollar has worked itself out.

Stock market, page 24

MPs criticise regional aid

By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

A CROSS-PARTY committee of MPs is poised to publish a highly critical report into the Government's regional economic assistance programme.

The report, which will be unveiled as the Government prepares to allocate more than a quarter of its annual regional aid spending to a single project by Jaguar, the carmaker, will call for a review to establish clear priorities, objectives and criteria for state assistance.

Equally damaging, members of the Trade and Industry Select Committee are understood to have concluded that delivery of existing aid is muddled and inefficient. While backing the case for state assistance to promote economic development and job creation in the regions, the committee's report, out tomorrow, is expected to warn ministers that they are failing to get value for money.

It is likely to demand closer co-ordination between the £398 million of regional aid disbursed by the Department of Trade and Industry, other DTI programmes to promote industrial competitiveness, Environment Department spending and the £1 billion-a-year of European Union regional aid to Britain.

Members of the committee are also believed to have been particularly concerned by poor collaboration between local enterprise bodies and lack of supervision of the funds entrusted to them.

Lancashire Enterprise, in its evidence to the committee, complained of "widespread duplication and waste of public-sector resources". The agency helped to rescue the Leyland truck plant from receivership.

The British Chambers of Commerce, in its submissions, said the Government had "underperformed" in supporting the regions because its spending was poorly targeted and it took little account of the varying effectiveness of existing support mechanisms. However, Tim Eggar, the Industry Minister, told the committee that Britain had to offer aid to compete with other countries for investment.

But competition by governments gives companies immense leverage. Ministers are braced for an outcry by other manufacturers when they announce an agreement to give Ford of America £70 million-£80 million in aid to build a new small saloon car plant. The factory, in the West Midlands, is expected to create 10,000 jobs. Last year the company was awarded £9.4 million to develop a new sports car.

Tories urged to scrap 'untrusted' figures on jobs

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

BRITAIN'S leading statisticians want the Government to abandon its principal measure of unemployment. The Royal Statistical Society says in a report published today that counting the number of benefit claimants produces inconsistent figures that are not trusted by the public.

Instead, the society urges ministers to adopt a separate, internationally recognised measure as the main official way of recording the number of people without work.

The results of a year-long inquiry by the RSS into official unemployment figures have been welcomed by the Government and the Labour Party. Both say the society's findings support their own claims on the issue.

The RSS is largely dismissive of the Government's count of people claiming benefit, on the basis which the Government says that unemployment has fallen by 607,000 since its peak in December 1992 to 2.36 million.

The society says the claimant count "is not trusted, is not based on any agreed concept of unemployment, is inconsistent over time due to changes in the claimant system, and cannot be used for international comparisons". It recommends instead reshaping the quarterly Labour Force Survey of 60,000 households as a monthly indicator.

Harriet Harman, the Shadow Employment Secretary, said the RSS's findings vindicated Labour's criticism of official unemployment statistics. However, Phillip Oppenheim, the Employment Minister, said the report gave "the lie" to claims that the official figures omitted anything up to two million people.

☐ Predictions of a future of "casualised" employment "are not just questionable but demonstrably wrong", Incomes Data Services, the independent analyst, says today. IDS says that talk of an "employment revolution" is misleading.

Lies, damn lies, page 25

Business Today

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3188.1	(+45.0)
Yield	4.28%	
FT-SE A All share	1558.90	(+18.29)
Nikkei	15630.53	(+249.24)
New York:		
Dow Jones	4180.86	(+12.45)*
S&P Composite	502.60	(+0.75)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	6¼%*	(6¼%)
Long Bond	102²⁹/₃₂*	(102²⁷/₃₂)
Yield	7.38%*	(7.39%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	6⅝%	(6¹¹/₁₆%)
Life long gilt future (Jun)	103⅞	(103¹⁵/₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6025*	(1.6190)
London:		
$	1.6005	(1.6179)
DM	2.2124	(2.2190)
FFr	7.7510	(7.7780)
SFr	1.8174	(1.8168)
Yen	138.21	(139.53)
£ Index	84.8	(85.0)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.3837*	(1.3722)
FFr	4.8485*	(4.8145)
SFr	1.1363*	(1.1230)
Yen	86.40*	(86.13)
$ Index	89.4	(89.1)

Tokyo close Yen 85.85

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jun) $17.25 ($17.15)

GOLD

London close $391.80 ($392.45)

* denotes midday trading price

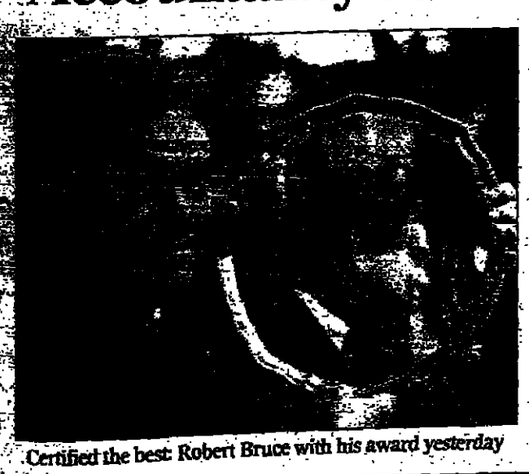
Standard stake sold by Lloyds

LLOYDS Bank has made a profit of £82 million after selling its 4.6 per cent stake in Standard Chartered, at a price of 290p a share. An initial shareholding in the international banking group was acquired in 1986 after an abortive bid for Standard by Lloyds, and was topped up in 1988 by subscribing for a rights issue.

Sir Brian Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds, said he no longer saw an advantage in holding on to the Standard shares as an investment.

Pennington 23, Markets 24

Accountancy has its rewards



Certified the best: Robert Bruce with his award yesterday

ROBERT BRUCE, who edits the accountancy section in *The Times* on Thursdays, was named as accountancy journalist of the year by the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants yesterday.

The award was presented by Lord Barnett, the chairman of the adjudication panel.

"His Thursday column is essential reading for those in the profession and for anyone outside the profession who wants to understand what the key issues are. The columns always deal with contemporary topics which are then subjected to searching analysis in the light of his considerable experience," he said.

Canary Wharf expansion to go ahead

By Carl Mortished and Patricia Tehan

CANARY WHARF is to begin construction of new buildings at its Docklands complex in London after reaching agreement to let 510,000 sq ft to BZW, the investment bank subsidiary of Barclays.

Sir Peter Levene, Canary Wharf chairman, said he was having "serious talks" over the remaining space in the development and expected it to be fully let within two years.

Canary Wharf is likely to seek pre-lets with occupiers for two new 170,000 sq ft buildings next to Westferry Circus. Several banking groups are currently searching for space, including ABN Amro and Deutsche Bank, which needs 250,000 sq ft for its investment bank headquarters and has included Canary Wharf on a list of possible locations.

Sir Peter would not reveal the terms of the BZW letting, but insisted it was struck at arm's-length. Rents at Canary Wharf's older buildings are quoted at about £20 per square foot, but tenants can still obtain rent-free periods and contributions to fitting-out costs. Lower business rates in Docklands can also halve occupation costs compared with the City.

BZW is enticing its 1,950 staff to Canary Wharf in 1996 by promising them an extra £1,000 a year when they move.

A spokesman described the payments as an "inconvenience allowance", and said they would end when the Jubilee Line extension to Docklands was operational. He strongly denied reports that BZW was expecting mass defections. "This is an entirely positive move for the firm and its staff. We are taking concerns and sensitivities into account in all our planning."

☐ Forty per cent of the bonuses of the directors of Barclays Bank, including two directors of BZW, are being made in the form of an allocation of shares to a deferred compensation plan.

Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays, said yesterday that the payments would be made into a long-term share scheme, replacing a similar deferred compensation plan set up in 1993.

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300 jobs go as Sweb sells stores

South Western Electricity is selling all 18 of its out-of-town superstores and a licence to operate out of 16 of its high street shops to Norweb, another regional company. The move will cost 300 jobs. Sweb is receiving £4.3 million cash, and more for the stock once valued, while retaining the debtors and creditors of the business. The deal will cut borrowings by £27 million but it will take a £20 million provision. **Tempus, page 24**

Boxmore buy

Boxmore, the Belfast packaging group, is buying GCM Print & Packaging for £25 million. Boxmore is raising £15.9 million in a placing of shares at 260p per share to help finance the deal with the balance from borrowings. Last year Boxmore raised its pre-tax profits from £4.4 million to £7 million. The total dividend for the year is 4.48p. Tempus, page 24

Brooks ahead

Brooks Service Group, the textile rental and retail services company, is increasing the total dividend to 2.25p a share, from 1.5p, via a final 1.5p due on May 30. The company reported an increase in 1994 profits to £709,000 before tax, from £323,000.

Stylo issue

Stylo, the footwear group, has proposed a one-for-two bonus issue as it unveiled a sharp jump in pre-tax profits, from £2.5 million to £6.5 million in the year to January 28. The dividend is lifted to 7p, from 2.66p, payable on October 2.

CLS in black

Shares in CLS Holdings, floated at 111p last year, were unchanged at 99p after the property investment company reported 1994 profits of £12.2 million before tax, compared with losses of £2.3 million. The final dividend is 2.95p, making 3.35p for the year.

Unity triples

Unity Trust Bank, banker to the trades unions, saw its pre-tax profits triple last year to £552,000 after a significant fall in its bad debt provisions from £2.1 million to £1.18 million.



CHRIS HARRIS

Nick Lancaster, left, managing director of Malaya Group, and David Jaggar, finance director, are taken for a spin after the acquisitive motor distribution company said that the HR Owen and Hollingdrake luxury dealerships formerly owned by Gerald Ronson's Heron Group, had performed ahead of expectations since their purchase in November. The company, which has assembled a portfolio of volume and specialist car dealerships since its financial reconstruction in September 1992, yesterday announced a return to profit in 1994, earning £617,000 before tax, against losses of £378,000 in the previous year. A final dividend of 0.15p makes 0.4p for the year (1993: nil). Earnings per share were 0.6p, against losses of 0.5p. Mr Lancaster said that early trading this year was promising.

House prices fall 1.5% as Halifax piles on gloom

BY ROBERT MILLER

HALIFAX, Britain's largest mortgage lender, will today add further to the misery of 10 million people with home loans when it announces that house prices fell by 1.5 per cent in the 12 months to March.

As well as house price gloom, the new tax year starts tomorrow and that means anyone with a mortgage of £30,000 or more, will have to pay an extra £10.45 a month because the value of Miras (mortgage interest tax relief) will fall from 20 per cent to 15 per cent.

The Halifax, which has 1.8 million borrowers, says: "There is still no real evidence of any recovery in the housing market emerging, which continues to be constrained by real high interest rates and reduced Government support for owner-occupation. Though it is too early to change our forecast, a rise of 2-3 per cent in house prices is now looking optimistic." On Monday, Nationwide Building Society's house price index reported no change compared with a year ago.

As well as falling house prices and the lower value of Miras, homeowners have also been hit by steadily rising interest rates over the past year. These have already added an extra £9.17 a month to an average £50,000 endowment mortgage since the start of the year and £25 since January 1994. To make matters worse, a cut in the value of the married couples allowance, which also takes effect from tomorrow, will leave most couples £5 worse off a month.

James Barty, senior UK economist at Morgan Grenfell, shares the Halifax's pessimistic view. He said: "The housing market excesses of the 1980s are still working their way through the economic system. Rising mrotgage rates, slow income growth and seemingly ever higher taxes are no real incentive for consumers to feel any more confident about the future."

Philip Williamson, a Nationwide director, said: "There is a need to balance carefully the needs of the housing market and the need to manage interest rates to help keep inflation in check." He added further rate rises would threaten any improvement in housing prospects.

Lenders are now engaged in an intensive campaign aimed at persuading the Government to re-think its proposals to cut income support for mortgage interest payments due to come into force this autumn. Adrian Coles, director general of the Council of Mortgage Lenders, which represents 98 per cent of the UK's lenders, said: "There is universal agreement among lenders, housing organisations and those concerned with money advice, that these proposals will lead to greater hardship for households in difficulty and will not assist the housing market."

☐ Housing starts in the three months to February fell by 8 per cent on a seasonally basis compared with the previous three months. Total completions were down 1.0 per cent on the same basis, according to new data from the Department of the Environment. In the three months to February 39,900 dwellings were started, a fall of 6.0 per cent. Completions, at 44,100, were up 5.0 per cent.

Argyll to close 17 Safeway branches

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

ARGYLL, Britain's third-biggest supermarket group, is to close 17 Safeway stores, with the loss of hundreds of jobs.

Four of the 17 stores are in London with the remainder throughout the country. Argyll hopes to redeploy most of the 1,280 staff who work in the stores, but a spokesman said that some job losses were inevitable. The figure is likely to run into the hundreds.

The group refused to be drawn on the cost of the closures, but analysts believe that it will be between £5 million and £10 million.

Argyll is in the middle of a wide-ranging review aimed at improving the performance of its Safeway business. The spokesman said that, in the light of this review, the 17 stores were no longer viable.

The 17, which are older and smaller than the rest of the chain, lack the space to carry the full product range. The average size is just 12,000 sq ft, against an average of about 21,000 sq ft for the Safeway chain as a whole.

Argyll is still opening stores. It has added 21 Safeway outlets to its 380-strong chain this financial year and plans to open 17 next year.

'Cut budgets for single currency'

BY GRAHAM SEARJEANT
FINANCIAL EDITOR

THE European Monetary Institute, prototype for a European central bank, has issued a warning to member states that they must bring down their budget deficits if the single currency is to get off the ground.

In its first annual report, the institute also lays down guidelines for national governments. It says: "Fiscal consolidation should focus primarily on cutting current public expenditure rather than on further increasing the tax burden of the private sector."

Good progress had been made in beating inflation, but far less on other elements in the convergence programme that was supposed to lead to economic and monetary union.

Despite opposition from national central bankers, the EMI sees ecu notes and coin replacing national issues. It wants to mint coins of up to two ecus (£1.60). Banknotes would start at five, 10 and 20 ecus and run up to 500 ecus.

Pennington, page 23

United Friendly at a record £47.6m

SHARES in United Friendly rose 22p to 602p yesterday as the life assurance company announced better than expected profits and a rise in the surplus available for dividend growth. The news of a £47 million provision for possible compensation for mis-selling of personal pensions failed to take the shine off the figures. Pre-tax profits rose 83 per cent to a record £47.6 million in 1994. The general insurance operations' result improved £15.8 million to a profit of £9.2 million, while life profits leapt 56 per cent to £26.8 million.

The group disclosed that additional analysis has led to an upwards revision of the surplus on the life fund attributable to shareholders from £275 million to £290 million. The final dividend rises from 11p to 13.9p, making a total of 20p, up from 16.5p, with the dividend due on May 30, from earnings per share of 39.3p (21.2p). **Tempus, page 24**

Geest division sold

GEEST, the food group, is selling its wholesale business to management for £4.4 million in cash as part of its strategy of concentrating on its core operations. Geest Wholesale Services made pre-tax profits of £400,000 on sales of £167 million in 1994. Net assets stand at £4.4 million. The management team, which is backed by 3i, will rename the business Francis Nicholls. Geest will incur a goodwill write-back of £3.6 million after the sale, to be charged in the 1995 accounts.

Siebe invests in US

SIEBE, the diversified engineering group, is boosting its presence in the American market by adding LeRoi and a 60 per cent stake in Fabex to its diversified products side. LeRoi, priced at £20.6 million, is based in Ohio with a further plant in Georgia, and makes screw and reciprocating compressors. The holding in Fabex, which makes tubular automotive parts and fluid assemblies in Michigan, cost £17.2 million. Siebe has a commitment to buy the rest of the group by the year 2000.

Owen's jewellery halt

OWEN & ROBINSON is pulling out of jewellery retailing to concentrate on its sports and leisure chain. The decision follows continued losses at its 55 jewellery stores, which trade under the Gold Centre and Owen & Robinson names. Withdrawing has incurred a £6.8 million exceptional charge. As a result, the group plunged into the red with a pre-tax loss of £8.1 million in the year to January 31, compared with £111,000 profit in the previous period. **Tempus, page 24**

Rea acquires Finsbury

REA BROTHERS GROUP, the merchant banking concern, is acquiring Finsbury Asset Management, lifting the group's funds under management to about £500 million. Rea has agreed to pay an initial consideration of £3.94 million. A further payment of £500,000 depends on the outcome of the launch of a new investment trust this month. Pre-tax profits in 1994 fell to £1.16 million (£2.05 million), but the dividend is lifted 33 per cent, to 1p a share, with a 0.5p final.

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.31	2.14
Austria Sch	16.57	15.07
Belgium Fr	49.47	44.17
Canada $	2.360	2.200
Cyprus Cyp£	0.750	0.665
Denmark Kr	9.35	8.88
Finland Mkk	7.50	6.85
France Fr	8.21	7.58
Germany Dm	2.36	2.15
Greece Dr	378.00	353.00
Hong Kong $	13.11	12.11
Ireland Pt	1.05	0.97
Israel	5.2866	4.5188
Italy Lira	2975.00	2720.00
Japan Yen	153.00	137.00
Malta	0.589	0.544
Netherlds Gld	2.628	2.398
Norway Kr	10.52	9.72
Portugal Esc	245.00	226.00
S Africa Rd	nrf	8.36
Spain Pta	210.50	197.50
Sweden Kr	12.50	11.70
Switzerland Fr	1.94	1.78
Turkey Lira	refer	66000.0
USA $	1.710	1.560

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SINGAPORE	40	70
SOUTH AFRICA	44/60	77
HONG KONG	40	70
TAIWAN	40	104
BRAZIL	68	100
COLOMBIA	68	104
ISRAEL	64	87
MALAYSIA	76	104

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LEGAL NOTICES

TECH-PRINT LIMITED (In Liquidation) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I, T J Roper of T J Roper & Co, Cambridge House, 448 Hackney Road, London E2 9EY was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company by the Members and Creditors on 14th March 1995. Dated 28th March 1995 T J ROPER, Liquidator

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PAGAN COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED
PRINTCOM INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
UPS BLACKBURN LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the final general meetings of the above companies, called under the provisions of Section 106 of the Insolvency Act 1986, will be held at No.1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL, on Tuesday 2 May at 10.30 a.m.

The meeting is called to receive the liquidator's account and any explanations he may give and to authorise the destruction of the companies' records.

31 March 1995
JCA Phillips
Liquidator

F.D.W. FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES LTD
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Michael J C Oldham ACA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the Creditors on 30th March 1995. DATED THIS 30TH MARCH 1995 Michael J C Oldham ACA Liquidator

Beauchamp Estates Limited
Registered number: 1340604. Former company name: SLOTMAY LIMITED. Trading name: BEAUCHAMP ESTATES. Nature of business: REAL ESTATE. Trade classification: 35. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 27th March 1995. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Coutts & Co. Address: 440 Strand, London WC2R 0QS. Name and address of administrative receivers: D. Swaden, FCA and J. J. Schapira, ACA, Joint Administrative Receivers, (office holder nos) 2719 and 5784) of Leonard Curtis & Co PO Box 563, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF

Case No. 001917 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF BERMUDA INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT (EUROPE) LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 24th day of March 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £10,000,000 to £2,000,000.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL, on Wednesday the 26th day of April 1995.

ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

DATED this 5th day of March 1995
Kingsford Stacey
14 Old Square
Lincoln's Inn
LONDON WC2A 3UB
Solicitors for the above-named Company
Tel: 0171 242 6784
Ref: RRN222

No. 001313/1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF GROWTH AND SECURED LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 22nd March 1995 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above named Company from £601,098 to £201,000 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 23rd March 1995. DATED this 28th day of March 1995.

Richard Tassell
Denseworth House
East Ashling
Chichester
West Sussex PO18 9AP
Solicitors for the above-named Company

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE

Notice is hereby given by the United States of America, that on June 22, 1994, a First Amended Complaint was filed in the case of U.S.v. $10,054.75 U.S.currency and 18.000 ounces of silver held in account Nos. 010103/0121 and 010103/0082 at Airconditioning Company (UK) Limited, London, England, Case No. CV 94-3958-JSL (U.S. District Court, Central District of California). The aforementioned property is restrained in the U.K. as belonging to Wanis Koyomarian for the cause set forth in the complaint, to wit: Violation of Federal Narcotics Laws, and is sought to be forfeited to the United States of America, to be disposed of in such manner as the U.S. Attorney General may direct. Any persons having or claiming a legal right, title or interest in the aforedescribed property must file a Claim pursuant to Rule C(6), Supplemental Rules to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, with the Clerk, U.S. District Court, Federal Courthouse, 312 N. Spring St., Rm. G-8, Los Angeles, California 90012, USA, with a copy to the U.S. Attorney's Office, Federal Building, 300 N. Los Angeles St., Rm 7516, Los Angeles, California 90012, USA, within twenty days of the final publication of this notice, and an Answer within twenty days after filing the Claim, otherwise, default will be noted and forfeiture sought of the interest in the defendant property of any person not so complying. The Claim shall be verified on oath or solemn affirmation, and shall state the interest in the property by virtue of which the claimant demands its restitution and the right to defend the action.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER
BRITISH BEEF COMPANY LIMITED

Registered number: 151985
Trading names: British Beef Company Limited
Swin Meats
Protein
Nature of business: Abattoir and meat wholesaler
Trade classification: 04
Date of appointment of Administrative Receivers: 23/03/95
Name of person appointing the Administrative Receivers: Lloyds Bank Plc
C K Rayment, G H Hughes and J H Ellis
Joint Administrative Receivers
(Office holder nos 6778, 6829 and 1955)
Addresses:
400 Capability Green
Luton Bedfordshire
LU1 3LU
Becket House
1 Lambeth Palace Road
London
SE1 7EU

IN THE MATTER OF YEWCOAT LTD
AND
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company convened under the provisions of S.98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, and held on 29 March 1995, I, Joan Yvonne Venvil, of Carter Backer Winter, Hill House, Highgate Hill, London, N19 5LU, was duly appointed Liquidator of the company

J Y Venil
Liquidator

Dated this thirty-first day of March 1995

The Insolvency Act 1986
ANDREW BRADNUM LIMITED (In Liquidation) NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Derringha FBVA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN and Nicholas Roger Lyle, Cedric House, 6-8 East Harding St, London EC4A were appointed Joint Liquidators of the said Company by the members and creditors on 8th March 1995. M.R. DORRINGTON & N. R. LYLE, Joint Liquidators

NO: 001625 OF 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF KENWOOD APPLIANCES PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 29th March 1995 confirming the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above named Company by £15,000,000 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 29th March 1995.

Dated this 5th day of April 1995
TITMUSS SAINER DECHERT
2 Serjeants' Inn
London EC4Y 1LT
Ref. C197/K211-019
Solicitors for the above named Company

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106(1)
Bluebird Software (1991) Limited
In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that I, Raymond Hocking, Licensed Insolvency Practitioner, of BDO Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 29 March 1995. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.

All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.

Dated, 3 April 1995
R Hocking
Liquidator

MANOR BUILDERS (YEOVIL) LIMITED
Company No. 688964

On 29 March 1995 the Company approved a payment out of capital for the purpose of acquiring its own shares by purchase. The amount of permissable capital payment for the shares is £17,000.

The statutory declaration of the directors and the auditors' report are available for inspection at the Company's registered office at Manor Road, Yeovil, Somerset BA20 1UT.

Any creditor of the Company may, at any time within five weeks from 29 March 1995 apply to the Court for an order prohibiting the payment.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
IN THE SLOUGH COUNTY COURT
NO: 514 of 1994
IN BANKRUPTCY
GEORGE ALFRED JOHNSON

I, Joan Yvonne Venvil, of Carter Backer Winter, Hill House, Highgate Hill, London N19 5LU, HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that I have been duly appointed Trustee in Bankruptcy of the above-named bankrupt.

All persons having in their possession any of the effects or assets of the bankrupt must deliver them up to me and all debts due to the bankrupt must be paid to me.

Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must forward their proofs to me

Dated this 31 day of March 1995
J Y VENIL
Trustee in Bankruptcy

HONDA GARDEN (UK) LIMITED

Take notice that the undersigned, ALAN DAVID KENNINGHAM & PHILLIP ANTHONY ROBERTS of Haines Watts, 4-8 Tabernacle Street, London EC2A 4LU, were appointed Joint Liquidators of Honda Garden (UK) Limited, by a resolution of a meeting of the company's creditors held on the 16th day of March 1995.

A D KENNINGHAM
Joint Liquidator
P A ROBERTS
Joint Liquidator
Dated this 28th day of March 1995

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE NO 4458 OF 1995 IN BANKRUPTCY PAUL ANDREW BARNES-TAYLOR Occupation unknown, formerly of Rosehill Farm, Bessborough Road, Harrow HA1 3DG, currently residing at Queen Anne House, Southlea Road, Datchet, Berks L. Richard William James Long, a licensed Insolvency Practitioner (Office Holder Number 6069) of Begbie Norton & Partners, Crescent House, Fulwood Place, Gray's Inn, London, WC1V 6HZ, hereby give notice that I was appointed Trustee in Bankruptcy of the above named Bankrupt on 24th January 1995 by the Secretary of State. Any persons having in their possession any of the effects of the Bankrupt must deliver them to me and all the debts due to the Bankrupt must be paid to me. Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must forward their proofs to me. Dated this 31st day of March 1995. R W J Long TRUSTEE IN BANKRUPTCY

NOTICE OF THE APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER
Name of Company: Pantiles (Plant Hire) Limited
Number of Company: 988216
Full name(s) of administrative receiver(s): PETER NORMAN SPRATT DAVID JOHN BLENKARN
Address: PRICE WATERHOUSE THAMES COURT 1 VICTORIA STREET WINDSOR BERKSHIRE
Date of Appointment: 17 March 1995
Appointor: National Westminster Bank Plc
Nature and date of instrument conferring power to appoint: Debenture dated 2 July 1979
Signed this 20 March 1995
DJ Blenkarn
Joint Administrative Receiver
DGJ/RAL/SARP001/1OLLE

SHD LIMITED

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at Sherlock House, 7 Kenrick Place, London, W1H 3FF on 28th April 1995 at 11.00 am for the purposes provided for in the Section 98 et seq. A list of the names and addresses of the above Company's Creditors can be inspected at the offices of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London, W1H 3FF, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors. Dated this 3rd April 1995. Mrs. SHAYESTEH NAZEMI, Director

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE

0171-782 7344
OR
FAX: 0171-782 7827

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION No 00537 of 1995

IN THE MATTER OF A. KERSHAW & SONS, PLC

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE is hereby given that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 29th March 1995 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £1,840,789.55 to £1,836,043.60 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 31st March 1995.

Dated this day of April 1995

Richards Butler, Beaufort House
15 St Botolph Street, London, EC3A 7EE
Ref: TEW/LBS
Tel: 0171 247 6555

Solicitors for the above-named Company

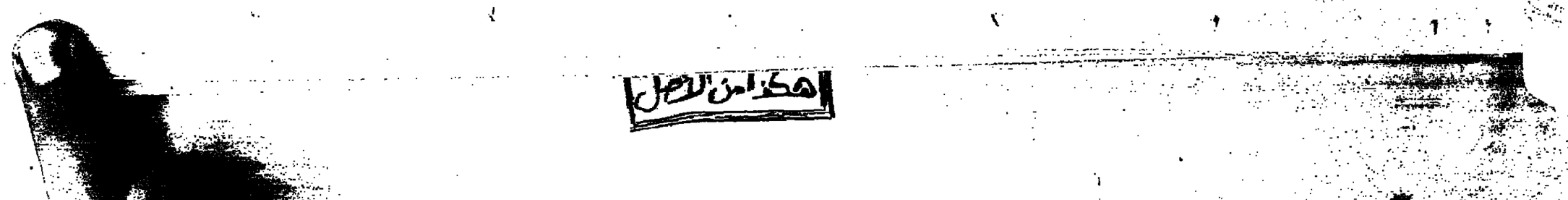
United Friendly Group plc

RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1994

- Pre-tax profits up 83% to £47.6 million.
- Total dividend increased by 21% to 20.0p.
- £15.8 million improvement in general business underwriting result to profit of £9.2 million.
- Life profits 56% higher at £26.8 million.
- New life and pensions annual premiums up 57% to £33.5 million.
- Total gross premium income increased to £328.6 million.

	1994 £m	1993 £m
Premiums — Life	234.8	219.3
— General	93.8	104.1
Life business result before tax	26.8	17.1
General business underwriting result	9.2	(6.6)
Shareholders other income less expenditure	11.6	15.5
Profit attributable to shareholders	32.2	17.3
Dividend per share	20.0p	16.5p
Earnings per share	39.3p	21.2p

The figures for 1994 are subject to completion of audit.
The board recommends the payment of a final dividend of 13.9p per share to be paid on 30 May 1995 to shareholders on the register at the close of business on 12 May 1995.
The notice for the annual general meeting to be held on 26 May 1995 and the 1994 annual report and accounts will be sent to shareholders on 25 April 1995. Copies of the annual report may be obtained from the Secretary
United Friendly Group plc, 42 Southwark Bridge Road, London SE1 9HE
Telephone: 0171-928 5644 Fax: 0171-261 9077



☐ Standing room only in the bus stations ☐ The psychology of cutting deficits ☐ Dignified and profitable end to a bitter contest

Hold very tight, please

☐ WHEN the National Bus Company was split up into 72 different entities and sold to anyone who showed a mild interest in running a bus company, the overall receipt to the Exchequer was £385 million.

The two biggest operators today, a decade after privatisation and a day after the creation of the second biggest was announced, have a combined market capitalisation of well over £500 million, and behind them trundle a traffic jam of smaller bus businesses — a total of 1,800 at the last count. The comparison is not a fair one, of course. Stagecoach, the biggest, did not arise directly out of the old NBC but was a privately founded company, although a number of the purchases that allowed the company to grow to its current size were NBC buyouts.

Furthermore, to the proceeds from NBC should be added those from the 54 municipal companies that are being or have been sold to the private sector, minus the handful that have gone bust since. But the bus industry increasingly resembles a large aquarium, liberally stocked with species of widely different sizes, a few weeks after the owner stopped feeding them. Small wonder there are now about ten very big fish indeed, and some very much smaller and very nervous ones, lurking in the weeds. When NBC was sold, the resulting bus map of Britain looked like an especially complex paint-by-numbers picture. By now, it has consolidated to a state where the big players are, in some regions, hemming each other in, and further expansion across the existing boundaries looks difficult. Some operators are talking about being allowed to swap territories or do management deals whereby some of the more inconvenient geographical anomalies could be set aside.

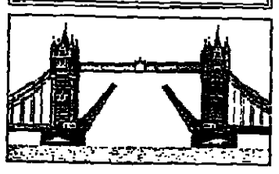
The industry has been plagued with several dozen Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiries, mostly of a highly regional nature. In almost every case, the deal has been allowed through once notice has been taken of local sensibilities. The complaint has often been of predatory pricing, with one big fish sending a smaller one to its death by deliberately running a parallel but unprofitable service. Once the victim has expired, the victor naturally has every reason to comply with undertakings given to the MMC and raise prices again.

At the time of the original NBC sell-off, the Department of Transport said the main aim was to promote competition between the original 72 separate entities while encouraging management buyouts — and by implication, not worry too much about the price being offered. This has an eerie resonance with similar pronouncements on the future of the railways, where up to 100 separate operators are being envisaged — and again, the actual receipts to the Treasury are not overwhelming. Little surprise, therefore, that several of the coach and bus operators are now eyeing British Rail franchises.

Taxing advice from Frankfurt

☐ ALEXANDRE LAMFALUSSY, president of the European Monetary Institute, has assembled a team including psychologists and historians to help to design the proposed new ecu banknotes that would herald economic and monetary union. Their debates on the niceties of political correctness vital for the new money need not

PENNINGTON



be unduly hurried. As the institute's first annual report shows, most members of the European Union are further from meeting the convergence tests for economic and monetary union than they were when the tests were drawn up.

Inflation may be coming down nicely, but fiscal deficits widened during the recession. In 1994, the Union's 12 members averaged a deficit of 5.6 per cent of gross domestic product. Discounting cyclical factors, this comes down to 4.9 per cent, but the ceiling for any country to join the single currency is 3 per cent. Even European Commission forecasts see the average falling only as far as 3.9 per cent in 1996. By the end of 1994, the ratio of gross public debt to national income across the union had swelled to 69 per cent, against the 60 per cent Maastricht ceiling for individual countries. On the Commission forecasts, it will rise to 73 per cent in 1996.

If M Lamfalussy is to make much headway in persuading governments to slash national structural deficits, he will need all the help he can get from those psychologists: Deficits will fall naturally as recovery matures but something near 3 per cent after several years of recovery implies that the limit will swiftly be bust, come the next downturn.

Having survived recession, however, governments will be more interested in winning elections than in pressing on with more fiscal consolidation. The British Government's Red Book, for instance, projects its fiscal deficit reaching zero only in 1998-99, the next likely economic peak, when the Exchequer should be running a strong surplus. Instead, £10 billion plus tax cuts are being touted. But those crying loudest for cuts would not want Britain to meet the tests for a single currency in 1999. Nor would they wish to bow to the fiscal and political dictacts already emanating, however politely, from Frankfurt.

Lloyds lowers the Standard

☐ LLOYDS BANK'S sale of its stake in Standard Chartered closes one of the bitterest bid contests the banking industry has ever seen. The assault on Standard, nine years ago to the day, was resisted so fiercely that Standard almost destroyed itself in the process. The offer of an over-generous dividend to keep shareholders loyal forced it to expand its loan book too rapidly to generate the necessary income. When the recession came, so did the inevitable disaster.

The timing of the disposal is no accident. As the bank's wedding to the Cheltenham & Gloucester is blessed, so its future is sealed. Lloyds is now a domestic banking and insurance group. Its international operations have withered and any renewed attempt to take over Standard would be so irrelevant to the business that not even Sir Brian Pitman, the chief executive, could argue a case for it.

Lloyds probably only held on for so long out of sheer cussedness and an instinct for keeping its options open. Until now, the bank did not need the cash that the stake consumed, and until recently it was sitting on a substantial loss. In January 1991, the shares traded at a quarter of what Lloyds paid, leaving it nursing a painful loss. By sitting and waiting, Lloyds has at least been able to exit with dignity and an £82 million profit.

Admittedly, that is not much, considering how long Lloyds has had its capital tied up in such a low-yielding investment. The cash released is being recycled into the C&G takeover, which should earn a return far closer to Sir Brian's targets.

Wet ruling

☐ JOHN GUMMER's decision to charge for water on the basis of obsolete rateable values next century, rather than switch to council tax banding, is short-sighted and cynical. Ministers and Ofwat love meters, the market solution, which are often too costly and will never be universal. The obsolete method will therefore remain permanent, to avoid losers from change, until a better Minister acts.

Pilkington ends legal dispute at cost of £31m

BY NEIL BENNETT

PILKINGTON, the glass manufacturer, has suffered a £31 million knock to its profits after settling a 12-year legal dispute with PPG Industries of America, which has cost the two companies up to £70 million.

The company announced yesterday that it has reached a full and final settlement of the dispute that had involved dozens of lawyers in Britain and America and generated tons of paperwork.

The dispute arose over the licencing of Pilkington's proprietary float glass manufacturing processes. The company originally claimed that PPG, formerly Pittsburgh Plate Glass, had used Pilkington's technology in parts of the world where it had not been licenced.

In 1992 Pilkington was awarded £21 million to cover its costs after a long-running arbitration case in Britain. But then PPG launched a series of court actions in the US. Last year, these cost Pilkington £8 million in costs, and the company had been expecting to pay out another £10 million this year. PPG's costs in the actions were even higher.

The two sides have agreed to end the dispute, since the licences over the disputed technology expire next year. Both have agreed that neither is guilty of anything and have divided the costs evenly. As a result, Pilkinton is repaying the money it was awarded in Britain which, together with interest, amounts to £31 million.

The payment will be taken as an exceptional charge in Pilkington's figures for the year to March 31 just ended. Previously, City analysts had been expecting the group to report a profit of about £140 million.

The payment will also push Pilkinton's debts back up after three years in which the group has struggled to bring them down.

Andrew Robb, Pilkington's finance director, welcomed the settlement yesterday. He said the agreement protected all Pilkington's other licences, which have generated revenues of £230 million in the last ten years.

The settlement also protects Pilkington's technology licences signed after 1982, for which international companies are still signing up. Last year Pilkington signed seven new licences.

If the court actions had gone against Pilkington, the group was concerned that other glass manufacturers would renege on their licencing agreements and stop paying royalties.

Mr. Robb said that the group still had ongoing legal actions in other parts of the world, but none of them match the scale of its row with PPG.

GEC seeks defence costs spread

BY ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

GEC, Britain's second-biggest defence company, is calling for a new arms procurement policy under which government departments which benefit from decisions to buy British equipment would share any extra costs incurred by the Ministry of Defence.

In evidence to a joint inquiry by the Defence and Trade and Industry Select Committees, GEC said such a strategy is needed to help Britain retain and develop key defence technologies, and to slow job losses in Britain's biggest manufacturing sector.

The electronics group added that "offset" promises to provide compensating work for British firms, often used to justify buying weapons overseas, were worthless. "There is scant evidence of any offset programme delivering real benefit," it said.

Advocating a new procurement regime, committed to retaining capacity in stated key technologies, GEC called for a formal assessment of the impact on the UK economy of all large procurement decisions.

GEC said the MoD should copy French policy and form a "partnership" with its customers, based upon common goals of cost-effectiveness and capability.

Vymura boosted by exports

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

STRONG growth in exports and tight control of costs helped Vymura to lift profits by 15 per cent last year.

The wallcoverings manufacturer, which came to market last May, increased pre-tax profits to £3.8 million (£3.3 million) in 1994. Earnings per share grew to 10.70p (10.34p).

The UK market's overall sales fell 1 per cent, but Vymura raised UK sales by 4 per cent, with strong gains in the DIY sector offsetting a fall in sales to high-street retailers. The group's sales to DIY superstores rose 10 per cent, making it the largest wallcoverings supplier to the sector.

Tom Small, Vymura's chief executive, said that action was being taken to improve sales to high street retailers, and predicted that these would increase in the current year.

Export sales rose 26 per cent, to account for just under a fifth of group turnover.

Mr Small said that raw material price increases were likely on top of rises of between 5 per cent and 10 per cent seen last year. The group had absorbed the pressure, so far, by raising selling prices and reducing its cost base.

A 3.1p maiden final dividend, 5 per cent up on 1993's notional payout, is due on June 21.

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Sketchley Textile Services, a BSI Registered Firm.

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BSI helped Shell U.K. Limited register their Stanlow Manufacturing Complex to BS EN ISO 9000.

"The extra work we had to put in was very worthwhile in improving our efficiency."
Acorns Nurseries can now offer their customers a wider range of services.

"Copying another company's quality management system is not a good idea."
R. Mansell Ltd believe that continuous improvement derived from BS EN ISO 9000, is 'a lasting benefit'.

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Please complete and post or fax to BSI Quality Assurance, Customer Services (Ref TMS1), PO Box 375, Milton Keynes MK14 6LL. Telephone: (01908) 228 007. Fax: (01908) 228 013.

Please send me a free copy of the leaflet on how BSI can help me build a better business by registration to the quality management standard BS EN ISO 9000.

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Title _____
Company/Business name _____
Address _____
_____ Postcode _____
Telephone _____
Extension _____
Fax _____
Nature of business _____
Approximate number of employees _____

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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Lloyds cuts links with Standard Chartered

LLOYDS BANK'S nine-year affair with **Standard Chartered** has come to an abrupt end after it decided to dump its near 5 per cent stake in the international banking group in the market.

Last night, Sir Brian Pitman, Lloyds Bank chief executive, was busily calculating the profit from the group's investment, believed to be in the region of £82 million. Lloyds bought its original stake in 1986 as the prelude to an abortive bid for Standard and increased its holding by fully subscribing for the latter's rights issue two years later.

After years of monotonous speculation, LLoyds has finally decided to rid itself of the stake. It sold the 43.78 million shares, 4.6 per cent, to ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, at 290p a share valuing the entire stake at almost £127 million. Hoare is believed to have sold on the shares to various institutions at 292½p, netting the broker a profit of more than £1 million.

Sir Brian, who was earlier this week quoted as saying that one in five banking jobs would be lost to the increased use of new technology, said he no longer saw an advantage in holding on to the shares. Word is he might use the proceeds to bid for **LLoyds Abbey**, up 7p at 359p.

The Lloyds' share price reacted to news of the sale with a rise of 8p to 622p, while Standard Chartered slipped 5p to 294p as takeover hopes suffered a setback with the sale.

The rest of the equity market closed near the top of the day after a futures-inspired charge that enabled the FT-SE 100 index to finish at its highest level for the year. It ended the day up 45.0 at 3,188.1 cheered by an opening mark-up for shares on Wall Street.

Some brokers are talking of a bull market gathering pace while chartists are becoming more excited by the market's achievement in breaching current resistance levels.

Turnover was almost 1 billion shares though some could be written off by technical factors. Traders estimated bed and breakfast transactions to establish year-end tax losses could have accounted for 200 million shares while little **Orb Estates** held steady at ¾p as 52 million shares changed hands. Turnover was also swollen by the Standard Chartered sale.

There was also heavy turnover in **British Gas** with 16 million shares traded as the price jumped 9½p to 296½p amid suggestions that a stake-building operation was under way. Brokers say it is feasible that someone like Lord Hanson may be building up a holding to take advantange of the shares that have been left behind and currently yield just over 6 per cent. **De La Rue**, the security printer, shrugged off some recent weakness with a rise of 18p to 891p helped by a buy recommendation from Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker. In February the company gave a profits warning. Henderson then cut its profit estimates 4 per cent and watched as the share price subsequently fell almost 20 per cent. As a result of that fall Henderson now feels the time is right to start buying De La Rue again.



David Philip, chairman, of Dagenham Motors

Argyll, the Safeway supermarket chain, firmed 2p to 291p after announcing plans to shut 17 of its 333 food stores with the possible loss of more than 1300 jobs.

Colin Smith, the chief executive, said the decision to close the smaller, older stores had been taken because they were no longer vialble. He hopes to re-deploy most of the staff.

South West Electricity rose 5p to 635p in spite of announcing full-year figures for the year to March 31, just ended, will include a provision of £20 million to cover the cost of closing 30 of its high street electrical retailing outlets. The move marks a complete withdrawal by Sweb from retailing, with 18 of the stores being sold to rival **Norweb**, up 1p at 623p.

AAH marked time at 448p awaiting the prospect of better terms from GEHE, the German pharmaceuticals group. The AAH share price is now 28p above GEHE's offer, valuing the deal at £377 million. The second closing date for the offer is Thursday week, but brokers are convinced the Germans will have to offer a lot more to win AAH or risk the company going to a rival. So far, GEHE has had less than 2 per cent acceptances.

GRT, the bus operator, jumped 13p to 269p with rival **Badgerline**, 5p better at 138p after they announced plans to merge creating the country's second largest bus group in a deal worth £265 million. Badgerline will own 63.6 per cent of the new company to be called FirstBus. GRT has forecast pre-tax profits for the current year almost doubled at £8 million.

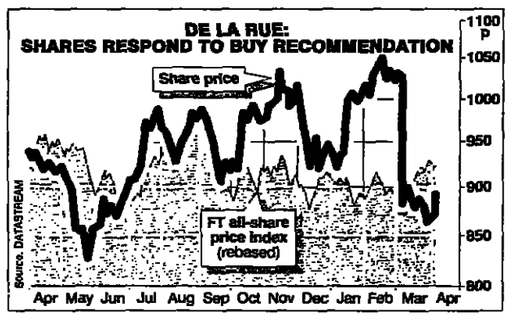
Dagenham Motors, the Ford distributor, rose 6p to 131p on full-year figures at the top end of expectations. Pre-tax profits last year surged from £2.35 million to £4.08 million. The group said 1995 had started well with trading profits substantially ahead.

Flextech rose 7p to 400p after saying it is close to completing a cash injection of up to £100 million. The media group is in talks with two potential investors which could result in them taking 10 per cent each via a subscription at a small premium to the market price. The companies involved are thought to be US West and Hallmark Enterprises which have close ties with Denver's TCI, Flextech's controlling parent.

□ **GILT-EDGED:** Prices continued to make headway in thin trading as investors began switching out of one end of the yield curve into the other. In the futures pit, the June series of the Long Gilt finished £$^{3}/_{16}$ better at £103$^{5}/_{16}$ in modest trading which saw just 37,000 contracts completed. Much of the attention was focused on the cash market where Treasury 8 per cent 2013 climbed £$^{9}/_{32}$ to £96$^{11}/_{16}$, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was up three ticks at £98$^{21}/_{32}$.

□ **NEW YORK:** Shares were higher at midday led by airlines on expectations of strong March results. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 12.45 points at 4,180.86.

There seems to be no stopping Fisons these days, with the price firming another 2p to 183p as more than 1.5 million shares changed hands. The new management team has made two disposals totalling more than £400 million in recent weeks. Whispers last night indicated that another deal may be imminent.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):		
Dow Jones	4180.86	(+12.45)
S&P Composite	502.60	(+0.75)
Tokyo:		
Nikkei Average	15630.53	(+249.24)
Hong Kong:		
Hang Seng	8491.93	(+91.49)
Amsterdam:		
EOE Index	396.81	(+2.53)
Sydney:		
AO	1936.3	(+36.8)
Frankfurt:		
DAX	1965.01	(+34.19)
Singapore:		
Straits	2074.05	(-0.60)
Brussels:		
General	6951.24	(+75.44)
Paris:		
CAC-40	1882.77	(+18.77)
Zurich:		
SKA Gen	582.10	(+3.10)
London:		
FT 30	2441.8	(+33.3)
FT 100	3188.1	(+45.0)
FT-SE Mid 250	3459.8	(+22.2)
FT-SE-A 350	1580.2	(+19.6)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1267.70	(+15.65)
FT A'All-Share	1558.90	(+18.29)
FT Non Financials	1683.74	(+19.76)
FT Fixed Interest	110.84	(+0.21)
FT Govt Secs	92.13	(+0.26)
Bargains	49023*	
SEAQ Volume	985.4m	
USM (Datastrm)	149.55	(+0.09)
US$	1.6033	(-0.0137)
German Mark	2.2217	(+0.0022)
Exchange Index	84.8	(-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)		
£:ECU	1.2050	
£:SDR	1.0329	
RPI	146.9 Feb (3.4%) Jan 1987=100	

RECENT ISSUES

Albright & Wilson (150)	164½	+ ½
Beale	171	–5
Brit Aerospace Uts	123	...
Colleagues	150	–11
Dailywin (128)	130	...
Datrontech (130)	136	...
Expro Intl (175)	174	...
Geared Inc Inv C (100)	99½	...
Golden Rose Cms (135)	115	–1
HTR Inc/Gth Split (100)	102	+1
-ditto- Split Div Pf (100)	105	...
Inv Capital Wts	18	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts	84	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts Wts	56	...
Melrose Energy Wts	3½	...
Monmtro UK Smlr (100)	95	...
-ditto- UK Smlr Wts	44	+1
Natl Power (p/p) (476)	170	+5½
PTS Group (90)	92	...
PowerGen (p/p) (512)	189	+5½
Schroder Inc Gth Uts	517	+1
Scot Oriental Smlr (100)	95½	...
-ditto- Wts	42	+1
Superframe Group (50)	40	–2
Superframe Wts	6	...
Throg Dual Zero Div Pf	103	...
Zotefoams (145)	173	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Acorn Computer n/p (80)	5½	...
Arcon Int'l n/p (1r20p)	1¼	– ¼
Beauford n/p (28)	1	– ¼
Guinness Peat n/p (20)	6	+1
Horace Sml App n/p (90)	39	–1
Marley n/p (112)	15	+1
Rhino Group n/p (8)	¼	...
TBI n/p (35)	3	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:		
Kleinwort Benson	644p	(+17p)
BOC	717p	(+17p)
ICI	743p	(+13p)
United Friendly	602p	(+22p)
Takeda Chem	789p	(+14p)
Carlton Comms	937p	(+12p)
Siebe	566p	(+18p)
FALLS:		
Johnston	295p	(-10p)

Closing Prices Page 27

TEMPUS

Level power field

STANLEY KALMS is gradually getting what he has been demanding for years, a competitive electrical retailing industry, but whether the head of Dixons will like the result remains to be seen. The departure of the less committed regional electricity companies from the market may have removed some of the unfair cross-subsidies from core electricity businesses, but it has also created three strong contenders able to compete with Dixons on more equal terms.

The smaller retail businesses had few chances. They could either attempt to undercut Dixons on price, which meant virtually giving the goods away, or they could simply not try to compete at all. But Norweb is now lying in third place by sales, behind only Dixons and Comet and with consequently enhanced buying power, with ScottishPower and Powerhouse, the joint venture of Eastern, Southern and Midlands, battling it out just behind for fourth and fifth. Coming up fast on the outside is the buy-out from London, which needs to expand and is rumoured itself to be eyeing Powerhouse.

Yesterday's departure of South Western Electricity, which had itself taken over South Wales' retail operations in 1992, leaves just half of the 12 regional distributors still in retailing at all. South Western follows Friday's sale by Manweb to ScottishPower, and both will be left with chunky provisions to hold back what could be politically embarrassing profits for the 1994-95 financial year. Further consolidation looks inevitable, which will create a market like the rest of retailing industry that is eventually dominated by just a few big names.

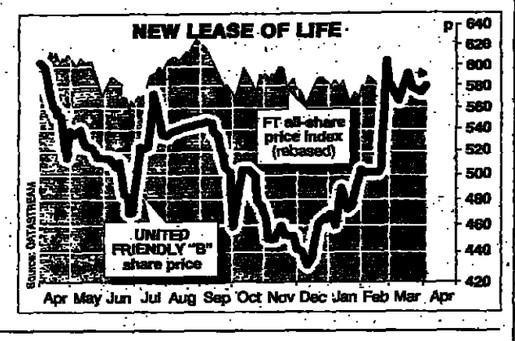
United Friendly

THE past has come to the aid of United Friendly again. After announcing that it was freeing 14 per cent of its life fund to provide an income stream for shareholders, the group revealed a further £3 million annual uplift to profits.

The £3 million net profit is from non-linked, non-participating business and reflects a surplus built up over many years. The distribution of the surplus is expected to be an annual event and for the same sort of amount.

Investors are also benefitting from an annual income on the surplus of the life fund attributable to shareholders. The surplus was identified in February as £275 million but since has been revised upwards to £290 million. This amount is struck after a hefty £47 million provision for possible mis-selling of pensions. As the group has only about 0.7 per cent of the pensions transfer market, City watchers deem this provision over-prudent in the extreme and expect a future write-back.

As a result of the extra income streams going forward, the group is in a position to offer dividend increases of between 15 per cent and 20 per cent almost regardless of the company's new business figures. The shares are trading on a prospective yield of 5 to 5½ per cent, which given the fast growth track for the dividend, makes the shares a buy however dull the outlook for the life assurance industry may appear.



Owen & Robinson

BRITAIN'S jewellery retailing market seems to create more casualties than winners. Signet's problems are well-known and now Owen & Robinson has given up the seemingly one-sided battle to make money and is pulling out of the sector altogether.

Jewellery retailing is certainly a tough market and one that has been in decline for several years. The lower end of the market, which Owen & Robinson occupies, has been hit particularly hard. In many ways, it made many of the mistakes that the original Ratners chain made. It went for volume sales of cheap gold jewellery, a strategy that worked in the 1980s but came to grief in the 1990s. It has paid a heavy price. A £6.8 million exceptional charge is a substantial sum for a company with sales of only £23 million.

Given the time and resources that would have been required to get its jewellery operations back into the black, the group is right to focus on its profitable Foothold sports chain. Unlike jewellery retailing, that is one market where it can watch others flounder while it makes the money.

Boxmore

BOXMORE'S strategy of heavy investment in new plant is paying off. In the face of substantial increases in raw material costs, the packaging company made 25 per cent more profit last year from its existing business without a dent in the operating margin. At the same time, the company spent £8 million on new plant — 2.5 times depreciation — and at the end of the year was left with net cash in the bank.

Boxmore has come a long way from its origins as an egg-box manufacturer. The company has plants in Ireland, Britain and France producing a wide range of paper and plastic packaging. Yesterday's deal takes the group further down the road of specialisation — the key to the group's increasing return on sales. Boxmore recognised the upheaval in the drugs industry as an opportunity and targeted the big players, aiming to be the packaging supplier of choice in an industry where safety and reliability are key concerns.

GCM will allow Boxmore to be a one-stop shop supplying cartons as well as plastic packaging to large OTC drug makers, balancing the group's exposure to the more margin-sensitive food and drink sector.

Occasional share issues have helped to keep Boxmore's gearing low and the company is asking for cash to fund GCM. Few would quibble with that, but, given the rate of cash generation, the payout could be more generous.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

May	933-932	Jul	1033-1032
Jul	953-952	Sep	1043-1042
Sep	972-971	Dec	1055-1050
Dec	991-990	Mar	1072-1065
Mar	1011-1010		
May	1022-1021		Volume: 9680

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	3072-3069	Jan	2938-2935
Jul	3016-3015	Mar	2920-2900
Sep	2975-2972	May	2905-2890
Nov	2950-2947		Volume: 1761

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	322.0-20.5
Spot: 372.0		Mar	318.5-16.1
May	372.5-72.0	May	318.3-15.2
Aug	360.5-60.0	Aug	317.3-12.9
Oct	331.0-30.0		Volume: 1930

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 3

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	91.08	132.38	125.25
(+/-)	+0.26	+2.99	+1.67
Eng/Wales	91.12	133.62	125.20
(+/-)	-0.32	+3.98	+1.68
(%)	-4.0	+6.0	+11.0
Scotland	89.67	127.83	125.77
(+/-)	+1.43	-0.47	+1.56
(%)	-6.0	-12.0	+6.0

ICIS-LOR (London 4.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.05	+0.20
Brent 15 day (May)	17.50	+0.20
Brent 15 day (Jun)	17.25	+0.15
W Texas Intermediate (May)	19.30	+0.30
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	19.00	+0.25

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B. 184 (+1)	O: 186 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	156 (+1)	157 (+1)
Non EEC 1H May	152 (n/c)	153 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Jun	151 (n/c)	152 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	97 (n/c)	100 (+1)
Naphtha	166 (-2)	165 (-2)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Apr	153.75-54.00	Jul	151.50-51.75
May	151.75-52.00	Aug	152.75-53.25
Jun	151.00 BID		Vol: 14134

BRENT (6.00pm)

May	17.53-17.54	Aug	16.86-16.90
Jun	17.25-17.26	Sep	16.80 BID
Jul	17.03-17.05		Vol: 3e099

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

May	115.95
Jul	116.95
Sep	102.00
Nov	102.90
Jan	104.90
	Volume: 412

BARLEY (close £/t)

May	109.15
Sep	101.25
Nov	101.95
Jan	104.00
Mar	105.75
	Volume: 27

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	298.0	302.5
May	338.0	341.0
Jul	unq	unq
	Volume: 238	

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Clf p/k)

May 122.75-123.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Apr 95	2190	2150	2190
May 95	2145	2075	2145
Jun 95	2080	1980	2038
Jul 95	1960	1890	1943
Vol: 298 lots		Open Interest: 4278	
	Index 2196 -1		

(Official) (Volume prev day)

Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	.....
Lead ($/tonne)	.....
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	..
Tin ($/tonne)	.....
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	
Nickel ($/tonne)	.....

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Rudolf Wolff

Cash: 2973.0-2974.0	Vol: 1292275
3mth: 2921.0-2922.0	
600.00-607.00	618.00-619.00	60000
1064.5-1065	1084.0-1085.0	332150
5875.0-5880.0	5905.0-5910.0	22845
1895.0-1896.0	1900.0-1902.0	1269600
7618.0-7620.0	7835.0-7840.0	75624

FT-SE INDEX (3186)

3050 3100 3150 3200 3250 3300

LIFFE OPTIONS

Calls	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts	Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Dom	500	45	51½	58		0	9	12½
(*544)	550	6	18½	28½		11½	30½	33½
Argyll	280	14	21	27		2	11	14
(*291)	300	3½	11½	17½		11½	22	25
ASDA	70	5½	8½	9½		0½	2½	3½
(*75)	80	0½	3½	4½		5½	7½	9
Boots	500	17	29	38		2½	17	19½
(*514)	550	0½	7	16		35½	48	49½
Br Airways	390	16	27½	35		2½	15	19½
(*403)	420	2	12½	21		18½	31½	36
BP	420	18	29	37½		1½	10½	14½
(*436)	460	0½	9	17½		34½	51½	55½
Br Steel	140	20	23	25		0	1½	3
(*159)	160	3	9	12½		3½	8	10
C & W	390	13	26	34½		4½	15½	20
(*398)	420	1½	12½	21		23	33	37
CU	490	42½	—	—		0½	—	—
(*534)	540	6½	—	—		15½	—	—
ICT	700	65	93½	123½		1	10	20
(*743)	750	7	32½	44		16	29	41
Kingfisher	460	5	19	27½		17½	26	33½
(*460)	500	0	7	13½		53	56½	60
Land Sec	550	41½	48½	52½		0	10	12½
(*590)	600	5	15	23		13½	34½	38
M & S	420	8½	18½	27½		4	15	20
(*424)	460	0	6	11½		35½	41½	45
Nat West	500	42½	57	64		0½	8	15½
(*541)	550	6	25½	34½		15	27	34
Salisbury	420	18	27	36½		1	11½	13½
(*436)	460	0½	8½	17½		24	34½	37½
Shell	700	23½	44	55½		1½	11½	18
(*720)	750	1	16½	28		30	35	42½
Smkl Bch	460	40	50	59½		0	7	12
(*498)	500	9	25½	36		8½	22	28
Storehse	220	21½	26½	29½		0	3½	5½
(*241)	240	5½	12½	17		3	11	13
Trafalgar	50	5	8	9		0½	2	2½
(*54)	60	0½	3½	4½		6	7	7½
Unilever	1200	43½	78	104		3	17½	26
(*1237)	1250	11½	47	73½		31	37½	47
Zeneca	950	40½	69	82		3½	18½	28½
(*895)	900	16½	39½	54		23	40	50½

Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Grnd Met	390	19	26½	34	6	13	15½
(*400)	420	6	12½	19	22½	30½	31½
Ladbroke	160	15½	21	23½	1½	3½	7
(*172)	180	3½	10	12½	10	13½	16½
Ltd Bisc	300	14½	27	33	7	15	19
(*333)	360	3½	14	19	27	32½	35½

April 4, 1995 Tot: 33011 Call: 14700 Put: 17311 FT-SE Call: 4937 Put: 7356

*Underlying security price.

Calls	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts	Apr	Jul	Oct
BAA	475	17½	—	—		2½	—	—
(*498)	500	3½	17½	25½		14	25½	30½
Thames W	440	22½	33	37		1½	10½	20½
(*480)	500	1½	12	17		20½	40½	43
BAT Ind	420	28½	40	46		5	15	18½
(*440)	460	7½	19½	26		23	35½	39
BTR	300	14	25	32		6	10	16½
(*339)	360	2½	9½	13		26½	37½	33
Br Aero.	444	42	—	—		3	—	—
(*479)	492	16½	—	—		17½	—	—
Br Telcm	360	13	22	25½		7½	17½	20
(*393)	420	2½	9	13		37½	37	39
Cadbury	404	41	51½	—		1	5	—
(*446)	447	12	27	—		11	19½	—
Coloroll	460	15½	29½	34½		9½	17	20½
(*461)	500	3	12½	17		38½	41½	43½
GEC	300	11	17	20½		6	13	16
(*302)	330	1½	5	9		27½	34	36
Hanson	220	20	22½	25		1	3½	6
(*237)	240	5½	10½	13½		7	11½	15
LASMO	100	10	14½	19		4	7	9
(*167)	180	2½	5½	10		17	19	20
Lucas	180	20	25	28½		2	4½	8
(*198)	200	6½	13½	17½		9½	12½	17½
Pilkington	160	6	9½	12		4	8½	10
(*161)	180	0½	2½	4½		19	22	23
Prudential	300	23	32	36½		2½	6	9½
(*318)	330	5½	15	20		16	14	23½
Redland	420	25½	33½	41		9	15	22½
(*440)	460	5½	15	22½		34	38½	44½
R-Royce	160	11	17	19½		3	6	8½
(*167)	180	2	7½	10½		14½	16½	19
Tesco	260	12½	17½	22		6½	9	12
(*269)	280	3	8½	12½		19	21	23
Vodafone	180	21½	25½	30½		1	4½	6½
(*198)	200	7½	13½	19		7	12	14½
Williams	320	22½	29	29		5	9½	14½
(*348)	360	3	11	14½		22½	26	29½

Calls	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Puts	Jun	Sep	Dec
Abby Nat	460	34½	42	49½		8½	14½	17½
(*476)	500	11	21½	29		28	34½	37
Amstrad	150	30	—	—		1	—	—
(*177)	175	11½	—	—		7½	—	—
Barclays	600	48½	60	71		9	18	23½
(*631)	650	20	32	44½		31½	41½	47
Blue Circ	280	20	27½	33		8	13	16½
(*298)	300	10	17½	23		18½	23	26½
Br Gas	260	29½	35½	37		5	8½	13
(*296)	300	8	17½	19½		19½	18½	23
Dixons	220	20½	22½	26		5	10	12
(*232)	240	10½	12	16		14	21½	22
Pune	220	15	19½	23½		4	7	9½
(*232)	240	5	10	14		15	17½	20
Hillsdwn	180	9½	13	16		7	10	11
(*187)	200	2	5½	8		21½	23	23½
Lonrho	140	19½	22½	25½		2	4	6½
(*159)	160	7½	11	14½		10	13	15
Sears	100	2	4½	6		2	4	5
(*105)	110	2	4½	6½		8½	10	10½
Thm Emi	1100	45½	60	72		24½	44½	51
(*1107)	1150	22½	36	48½		52	74	79½
Tomkins	240	11½	16	20½		9	15½	17
(*240)	260	4	8	12½		22	28½	29
TSB	260	13	19½	23½		11	16	17
(*260)	280	5½	11	15½		23½	28	28½
Wellcome	1000	66½	73	—		0	2½	—
(*1063)	1050	26½	32	—		0	13½	—

Calls	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Puts	Jun	Sep	Dec
Glaxo	700	29½	55	68½		3½	20	34
(*725)	750	5	29	41½		28½	44½	59½
HSBC	700	27	58	75½		9	28	44
(*716)	750	5½	34	50½		37½	59½	69½
Reuter	460	24½	40½	51		2½	11½	17½
(*481)	500	3	19	29½		21½	30	36½

Calls	Series	May	Jul	Oct	Puts	May	Jul	Oct
Royal Ins	280	12½	21½	26		7	11	17
(*285)	300	5½	12	16½		18	23	27½

Calls	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Puts	Jun	Sep	Dec
Fisons	180	12	19	24		10	14	16½
(*183)	200	5	11	16		22½	26	28

Calls	Series	May	Aug	Nov	Puts	May	Aug	Nov
Eastern Gp	550	37½	52	61½		7½	26	32
(*576)	600	12	26½	37½		30½	53	59

Calls	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Puts	Jun	Sep	Dec
Natl Pwr	460	25	38½	37½		13	17½	20
(*437)	460	6	13	19½		30	42	43½
Scot Pwr	300	28½	34	37½		6	12½	13
(*320)	330	10½	17½	22		18½	25	28

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Jun 95	3180.0	3221.0	3180.0	3211.0	13066
Previous open interest: 69128	Sep 95	3240.0	3240.0	3240.0	3235.0	5
FT-SE 250	Jun 95	3475.0	3475.0	3475.0	3475.0	8
Previous open interest: 4382	Sep 95					0
Three Month Sterling	Jun 95	92.78	92.84	92.76	92.80	20877
Previous open interest: 396241	Sep 95	92.34	92.43	92.34	92.39	12755
	Dec 95	91.98	92.07	91.98	92.04	7005
Three Mth Eurodollar	Jun 95				93.68	0
Previous open interest: 1149	Sep 95				93.34	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 95	95.32	95.34	95.26	95.27	32496
Previous open interest: 701997	Sep 95	95.14	95.17	95.06	95.07	40333
Long Gilt	Jun 95	103-21	103-27	103-14	103-20	37450
Previous open interest: 84443	Sep 95				103-11	0
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 95	115 90	115.95	115.35	115.43	3001
	Sep 95				114.56	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 95	92.49	92.88	92.44	92.72	122355
Previous open interest: 170153	Sep 95	92.30	92.30	92.23	92.22	17
Three month ECU	Jun 95	93.24	93.34	93.22	93.31	2080
Previous open interest: 18407	Sep 95	93.23	93.29	93.23	93.28	972
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 95	96.63	96.71	96.57	96.59	4976
Previous open interest: 39011	Sep 95	96.57	96.62	96.50	96.51	2329
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 95	93 35	94.40	93 12	94.30	32669
Previous open interest: 48295	Sep 95				93.65	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6%. Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5½; Low 4½; Week fixed: 5⅝
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅛; 3 mth 6⅛. Sell: 2 mth 6⅛; 3 mth: 6⅛.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6⅛-6	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	7⅛-7	7⅛-7⅛
Interbank:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	7⅛-7	7⅛-7⅛

Overnight: open 6⅛, close 3½.

Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6⅛	7	7⅛
Sterling CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	7-6⅛	7⅛-7½
Dollar CDs:	6.08	n/a	6.18	6.36	6.70
Building Society CDs:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	7⅛-7	7⅛-7⅛

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Jan 31, 1995 Agreed rates Feb 26, 1995 to Mar 25, 1995 Scheme IV: 7.87%. Reference rate Dec 31, 1994 to Jan 31, 1995 Scheme IV & V: 6.624

THE TIMES

CITY DIARY

Wise old head at the wheel

THE debate about non-executive directors and their "little jobs" rages on. But for length of service, can there be a rival to the eminent lawyer Lord Shawcross, who turned 93 on February 4? It was only last summer that he stepped down as deputy chairman of Caffyns, the motor group, a board he first joined 29 years earlier. Robert Caffyn said yesterday: "Lord Shawcross always gave valuable advice, and always came to board meetings. And at 90, I found him to be more alive and alert than many people at 50".

Young aspirant

AT THE other end of the corporate lifeline, I have found a chairman who is only 11½ years old. In 1971, Barry Houghton set up his Rainford Group, which makes base stations for mobile networks, using £1,500 from the sale of his house. Now, SG Warburg is bringing Rainford to market, with impact day on April 7 and has sights set on raising £20 million. Barry was born in 1948 — but on February 29. So he can be 47 — or nearly a teenager.



"You wait for ages, then the mergers come along all together."

Silly numbers

I AM left to wonder whether statisticians can count after yesterday's release from the CSO of the new code of practice. Page 16 of the glossy 24-page booklet is headed "maintaining confidentiality" and is followed by two blank pages. They in turn are followed by ... page 17, or should that be page 19? which is headed "Developing Professional and Managerial Competence." John Major says in introducing the code that it "makes an important contribution to achieving high standards in our official statistics". Quite so.

Lehman scoops

FIRST Lehman Brothers scoops up Sir Paul Newall, a former Lord Mayor of London. Then it takes on board former US Ambassador Raymond Seitz. Now, Lehman Brothers Japan has appointed respected banker Kiyoshi Tsugawa, until last month chairman of SG Warburg (Japan), and prior to that 30 years with the Bank of Tokyo, as its new chairman and branch manager in Japan.

Oriana stir

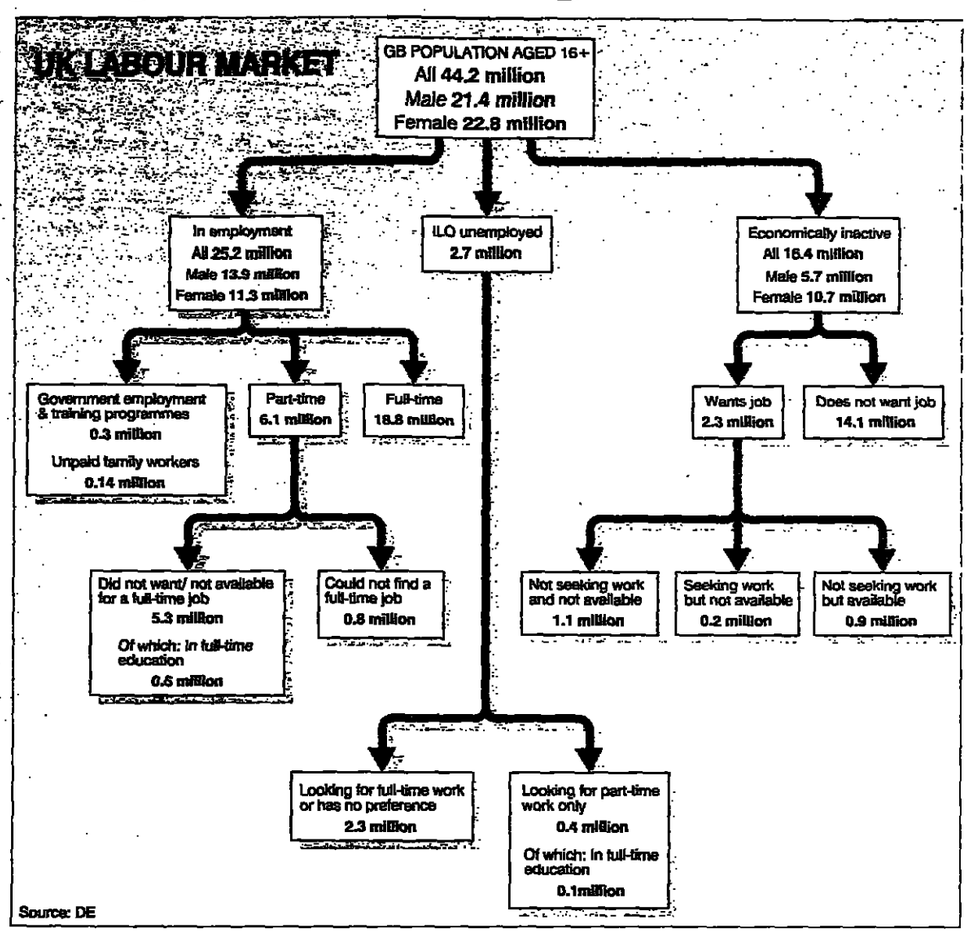
JON DEAN, general manager of Lockhart, the catering equipment suppliers, was delighted to supply P&O with a £250,000 order for the new luxury liner *Oriana*, but surprised to see on the list of 17,000 products a request for "two large paddles". On inquiry, Dean was told they were required "for stirring large vats of soup."

BY SUNSET today, Wednesday, I expect the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, all 107,000 of them, and the 40,000 strong Chartered Institute of Management Accountants to have announced their merger.

COLIN CAMPBELL

Lies, damn lies — and all those jobless figures

A new study shows the way out of Britain's maze of conflicting statistics, says Philip Bassett



Source: DE

How many people are unemployed in Britain today — 2.4 million, 2.5 million, 3.5 million, 4 million, 5 million? All these figures have their passionate proponents, which demonstrates two points: that the British labour market is a highly complex animal; and that unemployment and politics are inextricably intertwined.

The popular impression of unemployment figures is unquestionably that they are "fiddled" — which is why today's report from the authoritative, independent Royal Statistical Society on the measurement of unemployment is important. It tries to shed light, rather than heat, on what all sides agree is a highly vexed issue.

John Major wants Government statistics to be believed. In the Statistical Service's new code of practice published this week, he made his position clear. "It is essential for open government," the Prime Minister said, "that the integrity of, and public confidence in, official statistics is maintained."

But in its year-long study — the conclusions of which were first reported in *The Times* two months ago — the RSS was equally clear that unemployment figures did not meet Mr Major's standard. "The general public, many politicians, the media and various pressure groups do not trust the unemployment figures or find them convincing," the society said.

Arguing for a "battery" of indicators if the complexities of the labour market are to be understood, the RSS says that the decision as to what counts as "unemployment" is a political, not a statistical, question.

The society's inquiry, carried out by distinguished senior statisticians consulting widely with the Department of Employment, the Treasury, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Trades Union Congress, stems from a political argument raised by John Prescott when he was Shadow Employment Secretary.

At the core of the debate lie two interlinked questions: what constitutes unemployment, and how it is best measured? As well as the employed, the unemployed and those not available for work, the RSS looked at such categories as the "under-employed" and "over-employed", but concluded that there was no single answer to the question: how many people in Britain are unemployed?

This may seem like lame evasion, but it is mainly a reflection of the sheer complexity of the labour market. Those who claim that the "real" figures for unemployment are much higher than the official totals mostly draw in groups from economically inactive categories and total them up.

The RSS is uneasy about the idea of a single headline figure at all, though it accepts the demand for one — which, it concludes, must reflect the political phenomenon of unemployment as well as its economic, market and social aspects.

The headline figure, it suggests, "serves as a general-purpose measure of some aspect of the performance of Government, to which the electorate are entitled in order to inform their voting decisions." Indeed this, it says, is the only justification for the continued production of a monthly tot-up of unemployment.

Government statisticians and ministers closely connected with unemployment insist that the monthly headline figure, seasonally adjusted or not, is no more than a count of the number of people out of work and claiming benefit on the day the tally is taken. It is a claimant count (CC), not a full measure of unemployment.

Despite such disclaimers, it is the CC to which ministers refer when they make claims of economic recovery; the monthly CC also lay behind Mr Major's proclamation in *Panorama* this week that 1,000 people are coming off the dole queues every day.

The CC, a version of which is used in every key industrialised country except Japan, is a by-product of the administrative process of paying benefits. For that reason the Government will never abandon it. Like any business, the Government needs to keep close track of its outgoings.

The issue now is whether this administrative measure should continue to be used as the main indicator of unemployment in Britain. Something like the CC has been running since the days when unemployment was measured by trade union records, and after 1911, National Insurance benefits.

The CC is cheap, it is quick, it can be broken down into very small local areas — right down to parliamentary ward level — and, like elections versus opinion polls, it has the great advantage for a statistic of counting real people, not a sample survey.

However, because of political decisions about its coverage, it is vulnerable to change when the welfare system changes. CC coverage has been altered 31 times since the Conservative Party came to power in 1979, though ministers insist that only nine of those changes were genuinely significant in terms of a discernible effect on the count. Such changes have none the less contributed to the public's distrust of the headline statistic.

The measure RSS statisticians prefer is a sample-based count drawn from the Government's Labour Force Survey. Originally published biannually, the LFS — a survey of a sample of 60,000 households — has gradually gained authority, moving first to annual and then to quarterly production. Privately, most statisticians in Whitehall also now prefer it.

The LFS's unemployment figures are based on methods recommended by the UN's International Labour Organisation, and as such are known as "ILO unemployment". In Britain, CC and ILO unemployment have in the past diverged markedly, to the consternation and confusion of politicians, the press and the public — though at the moment they are closely in line. Statisticians prefer the LFS because it is both consistent and independent. But it is expensive: currently being market-tested, its annual cost is up to £8 million.

The RSS has formed three principal proposals after its study: that the CC should cease to be used as the monthly headline figure for unemployment (but should be retained as a simple count of the proportion of the unemployed who are receiving benefit); that the LFS should be redesigned and carried out monthly; and that the ILO unemployment count drawn from a monthly LFS should be Britain's main measure of the jobless.

Ministers reply that the cost is too great. The society admits that, at two or three times the price of the quarterly LFS, costs would be "non-trivial". Whitehall officials calculate it would add an extra £10 million to the LFS's costs, and at a time of tight public spending, Phillip Oppenheim, the Employment Minister, suggests that going to the Treasury with such a proposal would see it "laughed out of court".

That may well be true, but an eventual shift to monthly LFS production seems logical, and it is likely that a future Labour government led by Tony Blair would, as Shadow Employment Secretary Harriet Harman put it, "want to tell the truth about unemployment — unlike this Government".



ANTHONY HARRIS

Debt: the good, the bad and the impossible

Worries about deficits, debts and debt traps, which virtually faded from the markets during the world recession, have reappeared in some force since the Mexican crisis. But they remain ill-focused.

There is a general retreat from the emerging markets, often quite unjustified, while apparent basket cases such as Belgium get off very lightly.

This week, however, Roger Bootle, of HSBC Markets (still rather more recognisable as Greenwells), has come out with a systematic guide to the true symptoms of danger. They are applied common sense, but still not as simple as some analysts (notably the drafters of the Maastricht treaty) seem to suppose.

He starts from a thought I first heard some 20 years ago from a Fed governor. The American problem, said the then received wisdom (which is still in circulation), was inadequate private saving; but the governor would not have it.

"What do you mean by this statement?" he demanded. "That Americans do not pay their bills? That they leave nothing to their children? Neither of these statements is true. And if not, what do you mean?" No answer: and that led on to the thought that apart from the stupid and the plain dishonest, who are always with us, and from speculative follies, which central banks ought to nip in the bud, private agents never do borrow too much or save too little. They simply use finance. It is governments that cause the trouble, when they fail to trim their policies to national habits.

At its simplest, this is an American version of the old Kaldor equation, which said that only governments are responsible for balance of payments deficits, which reflect inadequate saving at the national level. This is essentially the Maastricht philosophy, which seeks to limit fiscal deficits to 3 per cent of GDP. Its weakness is the one-size-fits-all approach: where private saving is high, as in Italy, the balance of payments may be in surplus (which is saving at the national level) despite very large fiscal deficits.

Is the current account rather than the fiscal balance the test, then? This can be misleading, as Bootle points out, and as Britain discovered in the late 1970s. The North Sea oilfields were being developed, and as foreign-owned drilling rigs arrived, the current account showed a large deficit. This was regarded at the time as confirmation of original British sin, but was in fact a promise of the large swing into surplus that appeared as soon as the wells were producing. Some emerging economies also combine deficits with high investment and fast export growth: a current account deficit that reflects inflows of truly productive capital is natural and indeed encouraging.

A reliable test, then, would be based on the current account, supplemented by judgment (as the Treasury used to say of its own forecasts). But Bootle imposes another test: sustainability. This is the debt trap test. Where the stock of national debt is large (approaching or exceeding a year's GDP), and the real interest rate is above the real growth rate, the debt problem will become unmanageable simply because of compound interest. This is why Italy, thrifty, productive and in current surplus, is in crisis: its citizens can work out that official debt is unsustainable, so they will not buy it. This collapse of domestic confidence, by the way, is the usual cause of Latin American crises.

Applying all these tests, Bootle comes up with a slightly unfamiliar list of danger spots: Mexico, Brazil and possibly the Philippines among the emerging economies, but Italy, Belgium, Sweden, Spain and Canada in the developed world. And he suggests that a balanced budget is too modest a target for the US: it may need a permanent fiscal surplus to attain national balance. And Britain? Sound by all tests at the moment, which ought to make gilts look a bargain. Are the markets running scared of the coming tax cut auction?

Eric Reguly says viewers are underwhelmed

TV couch potatoes pull plug on video-on-demand service

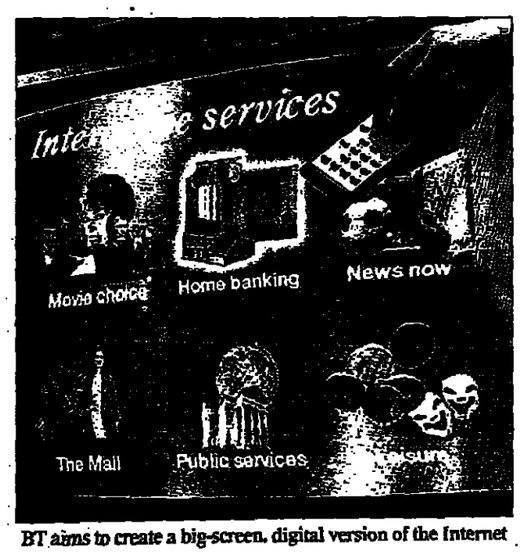
Speakers at a cable television conference held in London recently got themselves all fired up about video-on-demand, which gives couch potatoes the luxury of seeing what they want when they want. It was being billed as the next great step forward in the multimedia revolution.

But is it? Although video-on-demand exists in experimental form, many of the tests have not been runaway successes. Some, indeed, have been outright failures, prompting the cable and telephone companies that are vying to provide the services to scale back their ambitions.

A recent video-on-demand trial in Rochester, New York, is a case in point. Frontier Corporation, a telecommunications company, placed small computers on top of television sets in a few dozen apartments. A high-capacity cable linked the computers to a central computer, which piped the movie of their choice into the subscribers' living rooms.

However, the subscribers were underwhelmed by the experiment. Some, to Frontier's amazement, continued to trundle to the local Blockbuster to hire the same videos that they could have obtained at home. Frontier pulled the plug.

Other experiments, including projects by Pacific Bell in California and AT&T and GTE in Massachusetts, were killed off before they even started. Others have been confined to employees of the companies running the test. It is fair to assume that few of them told the boss that his video-on-demand service was more trouble than it was worth.



BT aims to create a big-screen, digital version of the Internet

There is no doubt now that pay-per-view, a distinctly non-interactive service that allows viewers to pay for a particular programme, such as a world-title boxing match, not video-on-demand, will be the next rage in home entertainment. Philippe Galteau, managing director of General Cable, a British cable company that is exploring new multimedia services, said: "Video-on-demand will probably be one of the last services to happen because it will cost amounts which are hard to believe now."

Fans of video-on-demand (VOD) seem to be misjudging human nature. Many people simply want to be entertained passively when they get home from work; selecting a movie by punching buttons on a set-top box involves effort. Furthermore, even if they do like video-on-demand, they do not want to pay a premium for it. John Malone, head of TCI, America's largest cable company, said: "Customers prefer VOD, but, in our tests, they didn't spend any more money on it."

John Foley, commercial director of Convergent Decisions Group, a broadcasting research boutique in London, concedes that video-on-demand is off to a slow start, but is convinced that it is destined to become part of everyday life.

Mr Foley thinks that video-on-demand will take off when it is capable of offering more than box-office hits. "You need more than videos; you need a portfolio of services," he said.

Other services would include home shopping and banking, a list of public services and news on demand. The latter would allow you to watch a repeat of the *News at Ten* when you get home from the opera at midnight.

British Telecom's forthcoming video-on-demand trial, involving 2,500 homes in Ipswich and Colchester, has been planned along the all-things-to-all-people theme. "We don't believe having movies is enough to pay for the service," said Paul Sharma, a BT spokesman. "You need other services as well."

In effect, what BT and other companies on the multimedia bandwagon want to do is create a big-screen, digital version of the Internet. Personal computers are fine for trawling databanks and sending electronic mail, but they lack the visual thrill. Watching a movie, playing a Sega game, or even shopping, might be much more fun on a 27in. high-resolution screen than on a PC.

Video-on-demand, if it is limited to movies, already appears to be a non-starter, another wreck on the information superhighway. If, however, families take to a broader-based service in they way that they are taking to the Internet, it may stand a chance.

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Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.00	100.00†	- 0.10	5.44
Extra Income	112.30	120.10†	+ 1.50	6.81
Gilt & Fxd Int	56.07	57.95†	+ 0.23	8.67
Income	503.30	538.30	+ 3.90	4.26
Income Builder	58.75	63.56†	+ 0.28	5.05
Intl Income	59.31	63.18	+ 0.54	3.82
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	113.60	121.20	+ 1.10	2.69
Leisure	118.60	126.80	+ 1.0	1.68
Recovery	400.50	428.30	+ 3.70	2.97
Smlr Cos Inc	41.29	44.90	+ 0.06	2.29
Special Sits	272.60	291.60	+ 2.0	1.85
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	125.30	133.00	+ 0.30	0.81
Asia Inc	225.00	238.40	+ 1.50	2.24
Asia Inc	136.40	147.30	+ 3.20	2.24
Euro Gwth Inc	143.20	151.90	+ 2.60	1.27
(Accum Units)	153.30	162.60	+ 2.90	1.27
Japan & Gen Inc	158.60	167.90†	+ 1.90	-
(Accum Units)	169.40	179.40	+ 2.00	-
Japan Spec Sits	73.28	77.63	+ 1.01	-
Ltnr Tech Inc	76.49	81.26	+ 0.83	0.06
Worldwide	158.70	168.50	+ 1.80	1.07

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
0171 214 1004

American Growth	92.35	97.97	+ 1.23	
Amer Smlr Cos	126.50	133.50	+ 0.40	
Commodities	51.82	56.17†	+ 0.23	5.70
Eastern	247.90	267.80†	+ 1.70	0.30
Equity Income	84.16	90.77	+ 0.63	4.90
European Growth	288.60	306.10	+ 4.40	0.86
Europe	211.80	225.40	+ 1.40	0.53
German Growth	78.96	75.10	+ 0.38	0.50
Global Bond	62.29	65.57	+ 0.22	6.30
Global Growth	119.90	127.30	+ 1.70	
Japan Growth	178.50	189.80	+ 2.90	
Japan Smlr Cos	144.40	153.30	+ 0.90	
Korea Trust	74.28	82.04	+ 0.67	
Portfolio	124.50	133.40†	+ 1.10	1.80
Recovery (Inco)	229.60	245.40	+ 1.90	1.80
UK Growth	80.46	86.32	+ 0.63	2.20
UK Smaller Cos	78.22	85.25	+ 0.35	1.80
Select Managed	71.14	76.25†	+ 0.58	1.09

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 250 3000

Intl Gwth Port Inc	71.65	76.73	- 0.22	-
Special Opps Inc	51.13	54.39	- 7.15	-

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD
01245 265 245

Balanced Growth	101.84	107.77†		1.97
(Accum Units)	115.53	122.25		1.97
Smaller Cos	97.73	103.42		1.28
Higher Yield #	42.43	44.90†		4.76
Actuarial Gilt Inc	70.41	74.50†		
European Growth	120.33	127.30†		
(Accum Units)	122.78	129.94		
Global Bond Inc #	28.27	27.22		8.29
Managed Property	39.87	41.12†		1.54
(Accum Units)	39.82	41.91		1.54
Intl Spec Opps	102.11	108.05		
Pacific Gwth	113.27	119.86		
Formerly UKS				
UK General #	72.40	76.62		3.73
(Accum Units) #	74.14	78.48		3.73
Japan	54.85	58.04		
Gilt & Fixed Int #	93.69	95.50†		7.99

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
0171 480 7216

Share Divnd Gilt	62.60	63.41†	+ 0.14	6.45

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 837 5080

Envron	150.10	159.70	+ 0.90	1.88
UK Growth	153.70	174.20	+ 1.60	2.45
UK Income	126.70	134.80†	+ 1.00	4.68

CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD
01707 851 122

Can Gen Dist	180.98	191.79	+ 2.19	2.07
-ds- Income Dist	105.99	112.38	+ 0.78	4.45
(Accum Units)	319.80	338.90	+ 2.30	4.45
Gilt & Fxd Int	39.04	41.39	+ 0.24	6.57

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
0161 236 5685 Enq 0161 235 5685 Dlg 0161 236 5362

American & Gen	151.50	161.30†		-
European Inc	73.74	78.13		0.59
Smaller Cos (4-1)	76.08	80.94†		2.33
Growth	399.60	425.20†		2.38
Income & Growth	392.60	417.10		4.13
(Accum Units)	559.40	595.20		4.13
Japan & Gen	84.63	89.77†		-
Master Portfolio	1586.57	£1680.14†		2.59
(Accum Units)	£1175.80	£1250.10		2.58
Special Sits	92.16	97.98		2.34
High Yield	£12.78	£13.18		4.56

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 0700

Cautious Portfolio	80.63	86.00	+ 0.61	2.66
American Portfolio	90.42	96.35	+ 1.00	1.52
European Portfolio	90.44	96.34†	+ 1.65	0.84
Japanese Portfolio	90.81	84.80†	+ 0.78	
Pacific Portfolio	127.24	136.82	+ 0.70	0.98
UK Inc & Growth	72.63	77.87†	+ 0.61	3.43
Utility & Bond	52.75	53.41	+ 0.32	7.21

CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG
0171 588 1815

Inv Fund	636.50	638.60		4.67
Fxd Int Sec	145.85	146.00		9.93

CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD
0171 332 5000

UK General Tst	61.60	65.60	+ 0.61	3.02

COIF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD
0171 588 1815

Inc	625.05	625.22		4.57
Accum	626.90	626.98		4.57
Fixed Int Inc	119.00	119.16		9.73
Fixed Int Acc	187.15	187.60		

CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD
0171 832 7667

Intl Growth	105.66	114.94		
UK Income	102.28	111.38		5.414

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 407 5566

Beckinson Intl	76.48	80.97		1.49
Beck Bio-Tech	26.29	27.87		
Aspen Clinical Tst	143.51	150.68		0.74
City Fin Assets	64.88	70.29†		1.28
City Fin America	86.13	90.43†		
City Fin Int	71.71	78.47		0.97
City Fin Japan	152.34	159.95		
Fin Inc Cap	353.45	364.85†		1.73
Fin Inc Inc	187.17	192.88		4.16
Buckley Wod Gth	115.18	122.18†		
Fastnet Cap Gth	127.43	135.58		
Fidelmount Int	139.96	146.95		
City Fin Pfle Inc	53.14	55.80		4.41

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 711 6771 Admin: 01227 227 300

Emerging Markets	50.24	53.31	+ 0.26	

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0800 373 393

American Gwth	57.57	61.57	+ 0.24	
Altic Mngd Gwth	34.68	37.09	+ 0.34	0.62
Dragon Growth	60.75	64.97	+ 0.60	0.65
Equity High Inc	70.66	94.74†	+ 0.52	4.26
(Accum Units)	107.94	114.83	+ 0.71	4.25
European Gwth	49.00	52.13	+ 0.78	1.18
Evergreen	25.60	27.48	+ 0.09	
General Equity	61.62	66.60	+ 0.67	2.94
Japan Growth	47.33	50.62	+ 0.67	
Pedigree Equity	49.17	52.31	+ 0.44	2.56
Pref Snr Cos Inc	36.44	30.76		1.67
(Accum Units)	39.62	31.51	+ 0.07	1.67
Recovery Inc #	24.84	26.43	+ 0.14	5.98
Special Sits	35.18	38.49	+ 0.29	2.18
UK & Overseas	45.65	48.56	+ 0.56	1.49

COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD
01634 838 000

Capital	66.62	70.62†	+ 0.56	2.10
Income	60.14	63.75†	+ 0.45	4.22

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD
0161 832 8616

CU MANAGED PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds:				
Equity Inc	150.94	160.57†	+ 1.34	5.45
Fixed & Convertible	38.68	40.43†	+ 0.12	7.44
Monthly Inc Plus	46.14	49.09†	+ 0.12	9.13
Preference Share	44.33	47.16†	+ 0.11	9.00
Balanced Funds:				
High Yield	115.54	122.91†	+ 0.80	6.61
Managed Fund	85.02	90.11†	+ 0.58	5.27
UK Growth Funds:				
Smaller Cos	35.95	38.24†	+ 0.15	2.10
(Accum Units)	41.84	44.51†	+ 0.18	2.10
UK & General	78.49	83.36†	+ 0.32	3.21
(Accum Units)	96.59	103.16†	+ 0.92	3.21
UK Growth	139.62	147.89†	+ 1.46	2.65
International Growth Funds:				
Europe Growth	180.68	192.21†	+ 2.78	0.23
Far Eastern Gth	119.93	127.58†	+ 1.61	
Global Bond	76.08	80.76†	+ 0.48	6.19
Japan Growth	119.63	126.98†	+ 2.08	
North Amer Gth	145.79	176.37†	+ 0.33	
Oriental Growth	69.37	73.80†	+ 0.66	0.11
Worldwide Growth	82.11	86.07†	+ 0.52	0.08
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.48	91.48†	+ 0.01	6.04
Homeowner Fund	75.58	80.40	+ 0.77	7.86
Galtee Fund	123.88	131.68	+ 1.02	2.45

CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD
01438 744 940

Growth Inc	56.55	60.26	+ 0.48	3.30
Growth Acc	61.34	65.25	+ 0.51	3.30
High Income	32.35	34.41†	+ 0.22	4.60
Japan	33.63	35.98	+ 0.70	
Smaller Cos Inc	28.59	30.44	+ 0.07	2.80
Smaller Cos	30.71	32.66	+ 0.08	2.80
North American	31.95	33.98	+ 0.12	0.90
European	35.86	38.14	+ 0.47	0.70

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
01271 407 5966

Consistent UT	29.38	31.51†		3.52

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
0800 526 356

Growth	134.80	143.50	+ 0.40	1.79
Income	66.28	70.55	+ 0.10	5.67
European	57.31	61.61	+ 0.40	1.02
Recovery	145.80	156.30†	+ 1.30	2.16

CO-OP PERSON FDS UT MGRS LTD
01171 393 9494

Equity Dist	801.70	815.00		3.72

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
01277 680 370

Fellowship Tst	71.12	75.65	+ 0.16	1.30
Income #	233.30	248.10	+ 2.00	4.69
(Accum Units) #	574.40	611.00	+ 4.90	4.73
Smaller Cos	152.60	162.30	+ 0.30	0.60
(Accum Units)	186.50	198.40	+ 0.40	0.60
Inv Portfolio	76.14	80.99	+ 0.69	1.48
High Inc Port #	66.90	71.17	+ 0.66	5.01

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
01171 410 0177

Euro Small Cos	£14.64	£15.20		
Japan Small Cos	£11.56	£11.82		
UK Small Cos	£18.69	£17.42		
US Small Cos	£13.84	£16.14		

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
01171 377 8819

Disc Inc	193.30	203.50		3.19

DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD
01131 315 2500

European Gwth	364.00	379.20	+ 3.00	1.00
New Asia	191.60	203.90	+ 0.90	0.17
Japan Growth	109.10	116.20	+ 2.20	
Jap Smlr Cos	425.10	456.30†	+ 4.80	
Pac Asia	260.80	276.30	+ 1.20	0.86
Stated Asia Pac Inc	109.60	115.10	+ 0.90	0.39
UK Inc & Gwth	205.10	219.10†	+ 1.50	3.04

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
01242 577 555

UK Balanced Inc	136.60	145.30	+ 1.20	1.84
UK High Inc Inc	146.30	155.60	+ 1.10	4.63
(Accum Units)	187.30	199.30	+ 1.50	4.63
Far East Inc #	54.76	60.26	+ 0.36	0.29
Envnmnt Opps	62.51	67.76	+ 0.50	1.07
UK Smlr Cos #	48.04	51.17		

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0345 080 526

American	120.40	127.80	+ 0.20	1.37
Convertibles #	19.81	21.05†	+ 0.09	6.65
Equity Income #	121.50	129.10†	+ 1.30	4.15
Eastern	43.34	45.98	+ 0.31	0.43
Financial	42.15	44.78	+ 0.51	1.67
Growth & Inc #	227.98	242.10	+ 2.40	3.18
High Dist #	150.60	160.30	+ 1.60	4.68
International	361.50	384.10	+ 3.80	1.36
Int Cap Inc	87.14	92.45†	+ 0.78	2.94
Latin American	24.11	25.62	- 0.19	-
Pacific	72.16	76.67	+ 0.71	-
Preference Shrs	28.90	27.21†	+ 0.11	7.43
Values	204.80	217.60	+ 2.60	
UK Smaller Cos	215.00	228.40	+ 0.50	1.20

ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD
0171 242 0242

Eliza Trust	209.35	213.75	+ 6.51	1.02

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 373 7261

Endurance Fd	189.80	201.90		1.16

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
01256 431 486

Aggressive	76.76	80.80	+ 0.64	1.94
Ethical Tst	40.39	42.52	+ 0.33	1.41
Far Eastern	278.24	292.88	+ 3.25	2.16
High Income	127.69	134.62	+ 1.27	4.99
Intl Growth	172.67	118.55†	+ 1.62	1.30
North American	109.07	114.75	+ 0.83	1.30
Pelican	113.48	119.45	+ 1.36	3.43
Smaller Cos	62.49	65.78	+ 0.15	3.01
Special Sits	82.80	87.16	+ 0.43	2.55
Tst of Inv Trs	177.18	186.19	+ 1.35	1.82

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 407 5966

Smaller Cos Inc	188.80	198.67†	- 0.55	1.49
Smaller Cos Acc	331.95	345.78†	- 0.96	1.49
Recovery	47.90	49.90	- 0.23	1.42
Recovery Acc	48.42	50.44	- 0.24	1.42

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
01392 412 144

Balanced	108.46	115.38	+ 0.40	6.03
Capital Growth	75.77	80.53	+ 0.28	
Fd of Inv Trs	41.84	44.42	+ 0.30	0.65
High Income #	36.75	41.53†	- 0.01	11.08
High Income #	46.13	50.79†	+ 0.05	
Zero Preference	36.99	39.25	- 0.11	

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
01273 220 707

Family Accel Tst	74.79	79.56†	+0.453	2.96
Family Income Tst	42.36	42.35†	+0.190	6.95
Family Trust	60.59	65.73†	+0.040	1.56
United Charities	245.90	261.50†	+0.800	4.22

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
Dealings: Private Clients: 0800 414 181

Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		5.90
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	26.69	26.78	- 0.10	7.61
Intl Bond	28.67	29.75	+ 0.20	5.07
Income Funds				
High Income	73.23	74.44†	+ 0.20	5.17
Income Plus	104.98	111.58†	+ 0.80	4.00
Amer Eq Inc	46.01	48.56	+ 0.25	1.91
European Income	39.95	42.48	+ 0.31	1.60
Far East Inc	82.45	86.37	+ 0.84	2.29
Global Convertible	21.67	23.12†	+ 0.11	3.52
UK Inc Gwth	29.51	31.60†	+ 0.21	1.85
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	55.06	58.74	+ 0.66	
Americas	230.90	254.10	+ 2.30	
Amer Spec Sits	112.50	120.10	+ 1.00	
Japan Smaller Cos	34.87	37.20	+ 0.32	
European	157.70	167.70	+ 1.60	
European Opps	58.97	62.77	+ 0.17	
Global Prin	32.71	34.88†	+ 0.26	0.86
UK Growth	87.10	92.75	+ 0.74	
Growth & Inc	136.10	144.80	+ 1.20	2.78
Intl PEP	33.54	37.79	+ 0.69	
Japan Spec Sits	83.65	89.24	+ 0.62	
Japan	178.50	191.60	+ 3.00	
Managed Intl	261.10	278.20†	+ 3.10	
Moneybuilder	49.98	53.15	+ 0.36	
Recovery	49.96	53.67†	+ 0.21	
Select Europe	133.80	149.20	+ 2.20	
Special Sits	491.00	524.20	+ 7.00	
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Unit	108.83	108.88	+ 0.01	5.90

FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD
01171 814 2700

Balanced #	128.80	131.30†		1.96
Inc Ptflio #	81.82	83.43†	+ 0.41	3.42
Cap Ptflio	136.00	138.30	+ 1.60	1.38
General Opps	116.70	118.60		3.62
Growth Inc	29.61	30.22	+ 0.24	1.78
Private Portfolio	383.30	391.90†		1.34

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT
Enq 0171 454 1434 Dlg 01277 261 018

European	107.40	113.40	+ 1.30	0.37
Emrg Asian	152.90	164.50	+ 0.98	
High Income	30.92	32.18†	+ 0.15	10.14
Global Income	87.28	93.16	+ 1.03	3.36
UK Growth	104.70	112.10	+ 0.60	1.93
UK Income	104.60	110.90	+ 0.80	3.81
US Smaller Cos	293.30	313.70	+ 1.50	0.15

FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD
01273 407 5966

High Inc Extra	48.15	48.53	+ 0.34	3.36
-ds- Inv Tst Inc	76.23	73.65†	+ 0.21	3.75
Intl Growth	63.51	66.78	+ 0.03	
Investment Trust	83.79	88.11†	+ 0.43	
UK Smaller Cos	78.70	82.85	+ 0.08	0.99

FRANKLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
0171 374 4100

American Growth	55.31	59.12†	+ 0.17	
(Accum Units)	55.31	59.12†	+ 0.17	
Amer Smlr Cos	467.30	499.80	+ 2.50	
(Accum Units)	477.40	510.60	+ 2.60	
Capital Tst	259.20	267.90†	+ 0.90	1.61
(Accum Units)	415.90	442.30†	+ 1.20	1.61
Cont Smlr Cos	57.02	60.98	+ 0.21	0.51
(Accum Units)	58.97	64.02	+ 0.21	0.51
Convertible	119.70	127.30	+ 0.50	5.87
(Accum Units)	241.90	257.30	+ 1.30	5.87
Emerging Markets	60.32	64.44	+ 0.05	-
(Accum Units)	60.38	64.50	+ 0.07	-
European	113.40	120.20	+ 1.40	0.14
(Accum Units)	118.80	126.00	+ 1.50

حقوق امن الاصيل

Strong gains across the board

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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DISTRIBUTORS

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ELECTRICITY

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

HEALTHCARE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

LEISURE & HOTELS

MEDIA

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

LONGS (over 15 years)

UNDATED

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Source: Fin

What lies behind the Major programme row?

Yet another black mark for the Beeb

Auntie doth protest too much. The BBC's defence — that its *Panorama* interview with the Prime Minister on Monday was irrelevant to local elections in Scotland on Thursday — is not credible. Even judged on its own, the BBC's decision to go ahead with the John Major interview despite an internal warning that the other parties might object seems like kowtowing to the party in power.

But the context can hardly be ignored. The decision to give the Prime Minister a 40-minute whiff of the oxygen of publicity came only days after a succession of Tory complaints about the BBC's alleged pro-Labour bias, particularly as manifested by John Humphrys on Radio 4's *Today* show.

What's more, it followed by a mere two months the speech by John Birt, the BBC's Director-General, castigating broadcast interviewers for disrespect to politicians. And it came nearly a year after the BBC pulled a scheduled *Panorama* on alleged corruption in the Conservative-controlled Westminster City Council in order not to violate its obligations of balance in the run-up to local government elections.

The BBC has come out of the *Panorama* incident badly. Once again, it has refused to admit a mistake. It has shown itself insensitive to feelings outside London. Above all, the BBC has shown itself to be still holding its breath until the Conservative Government renews its charter. Its unsuccessful rush to law yesterday in the name of free speech sounded splendid. Would that the BBC had run so quickly to law when the Thatcher Government slapped the ban on broadcasting certain Irish voices.

Oh, but, Tony Hall, managing director of BBC news and current affairs, has rushed to say, David Dimbleby gave the Prime Minister no easy ride on Monday's *Panorama*.

Well, not exactly easy, but not bumpy, either. Forty minutes' exposure on television is a gift in itself. The interrogation formula Dimbleby chose — a succession of honed, sharp questions — merely invites long, self-justifying answers.

Major is getting good at this. Who has given him elocution lessons? He is much better, forceful, never flustered. He countered every Dimbleby thrust by listing his own good points. What's more, he got the crucial last word — last paragraph, really — for a resounding declaration that



BRENDA MADDOX

he would be in his job for years and years to come.

If the BBC really had wanted to show a man in the hot seat, it could have repeated on yesterday's breakfast television a clip of Jeremy Paxman grilling Hall on Monday's *Newsnight* about when exactly the BBC had decided to go ahead with the interview. Instead, morning viewers got Hall, defending to camera, without fear of interruption, the BBC's constitutional right to make its own editorial decisions. The moral is obvious. Just as there is no such thing as a free lunch, there is no such thing as a licence fee without strings. An unconfident BBC such as today's is sensitive to tugs on the string.

But there is a rough justice in these matters. Showing the Major interview will have done nothing to persuade the Conservatives that the BBC does not tilt towards Labour. To them, the proof of John Humphrys's pro-Labour sentiments was his chairing an education conference organised by the teachers' unions. But they did not complain of partisanship last week when James Naughtie, another presenter from the controversial *Today* show, chaired the self-congratulatory "Britain in the World" conference, with, at his side, the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary, delivering the message that their stewardship has made Great Britain even greater. Happily, Naughtie forestalled any suggestion of bias. Though the day was the Prime Minister's birthday, he said he would not wish Major a happy birthday for fear of jeopardising the BBC's reputation for impartiality.

If only politicians could realise that the *Today* programme or *Panorama* reach a mere fraction of the electorate and do not sway hearts and minds. If they cannot, they should take the advice of that seasoned political adviser, Nancy Reagan: Just Say No.

Equally, they could comfort themselves with the knowledge that Britain does have rules and formulas for securing political balance on the airwaves and that, by and large, these work.

A ban on political advertising spares the public the slick, expensive, insulting campaign commercials that are poisoning the American electoral process.

The trouble is that no formula can possibly balance the extra publicity — and the extra grilling — that a political party gets by being in office and doing the jobs that make the news. So each side will continue to feel hard done by.

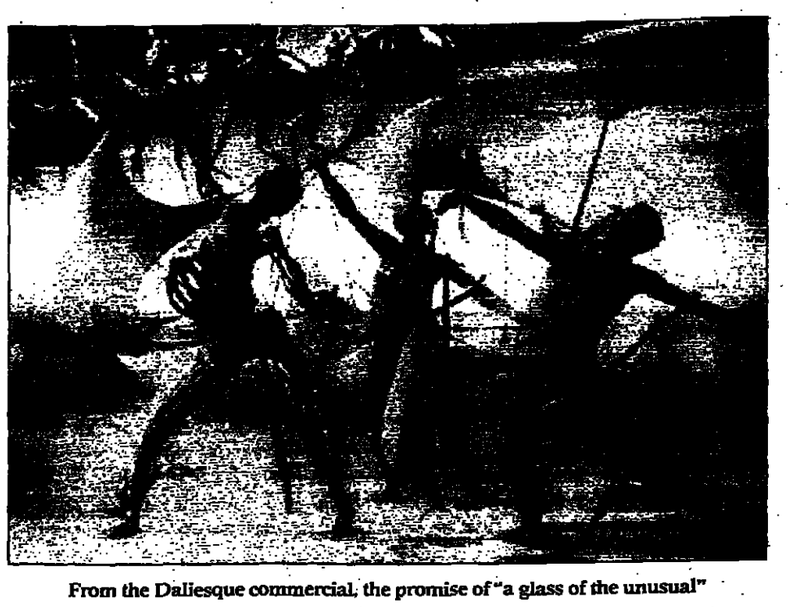
● Nicholas Negroponte, the media guru, will speak at *The Times*/Dillons forum at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Road, London WC1, tomorrow at 7.30pm. A few tickets are still available from Dillons (0171-915-6613) at £10 each (concessions £7.50).

My goodness, Guinness lager

The stout maker and Bass are competing with a new style of marketing, says **Alan Mitchell**

Last Monday was quite a day for Britain's brewers. After years of planning, and at least one false start, Guinness launched Enigma, the lager it hopes will complete its transformation from a stout maker to a mainstream brewer. On the same day, Bass, Britain's biggest brewer, also announced Carling Premier, a stronger version of its Carling Black Label.

Guinness Enigma's debut was marked by a commercial that uses Salvador Dali's surrealist paintings to promise "a glass of the unusual: the metamorphosis of lager". Both the Bass and the Guinness initiatives highlight a metamorphosis of lager marketing. To keep up with maturing customers, who are drifting away from standard lagers such as Heineken, Carling Black Label and Castlemaine towards so-called premium lagers, beer marketers are having to change what they sell and how they sell it.



From the Daliesque commercial, the promise of "a glass of the unusual"

Rupert Hopkins of Barker & Ralston, the advertising agency behind Beck's, believes that consumers are starting to tire of traditional lager marketing. "The advertising of the late 1970s and 1980s is now regarded as lager-lout advertising," he says.

Famous advertising campaigns of the past such as "I bet he drinks Carling Black Label" are being quietly reined in and Premium brands such as Whitbread's Stella Artois, Courage's Kronenbourg 1664, Beck's and Holsten Pils are being heavily promoted. The market researchers Nielsen say that though overall beer sales fell by about 1 per cent last year, Stella, the top premium brand, notched up 24 per cent sales growth.

Now the newcomers from Bass and Guinness are trying to muscle in. Steve Day, Guinness's marketing controller for ales and lagers, says that Enigma should be the fourth biggest take-home premium lager by the end of this year. Enigma's marketing spend this year will be £8 million.

Seamus McBride, Bass's marketing director, is even more bullish: he plans to oust Stella from its current position by the end of the century. Carling's marketing budget is being doubled.

But the big thing in lager is not advertising but something its marketers once poohpoohed: product differentiation. Ten years ago, the view was that all lagers taste the same and the only way to make them seem different was through wacky advertising. Now, says Mike Campbell, buying director at Thresher, "people are looking for the quality of the product, not just the badge".

Thus, Carling Premier is promising drinkers a new type of drink "with a unique look, feel and flavour", which it achieves by pumping a different mixture of gases through it and by selling it four degrees colder than most lagers. Likewise, Guinness has placed what it calls a second-generation widget in its Enigma cans, to deliver a bigger head. Bass also promises better widgets in its Carling Premier cans.

But Guinness marketers claim they have a unique advantage. Barry Cox, managing partner at Publicis, the agency behind the Daliesque ads, claims "there are many lager drinkers who would like to buy into Guinness values but couldn't until now."

Steve Day says: "There is the intrigue of the widget in the lager, the intrigue of a lager from Guinness. And the advertising is intriguing. Once people are intrigued they will try it. And once they try it, we think they'll come back for more."

Roy Greenslade congratulates The World Tonight on 25 years of serious reporting

A nightcap of the news

ALL THE media attention may be on Radio 4's *Today* programme, but this week one of its more tranquil cousins, *The World Tonight*, is celebrating its 25th anniversary with a typically diffident display of its greatest virtue: intelligent, in-depth reporting of modern history.

To mark its birthday, *The World Tonight* has returned to stories a quarter of a century old — the Cold War, the abolition of grammar schools, violence against Pakistanis and the conflict in Northern Ireland — to explore the changes which have occurred since.

This is a classic approach by a programme which prides itself on its sobriety, sensitivity and sagacity. But it also offers an insight into the way in which Radio 4 has separately styled each of its four daily news magazines, not so much to appeal to different people, as to the different moods and interests of roughly the same people at different times of the day.

Radio 4's largest audience wakes to *Today* and its kind of ticker tape *news* approach: short items umpired by assertive presenters who, when not interrupting verbose politicians, are attenuating interviews with the familiar refrain, "sorry, we have run out of time".

At lunchtime *The World At One* is a little less frenetic, but still tends to gasp for breath as it copes with the normally heavy morning news agenda.

Later on, *PM* provides a rather chatty and cosy interlude, offering a far softer approach, symbolised by jingles, listeners' letters and by the relaxed manner of its presenters.



Robin Lustig: presenter

Then, at 10pm, comes 45 minutes of *The World Tonight*. It knows that 73 per cent of its regular audience (some 400,000) have heard the *Today* programme that morning. So, if news isn't breaking, it adopts a deliberately more considered and serious approach than any of its three stablemates.

Anne Koch, the Editor, says: "We have time to take stories on, to give added value. We are more analytical, more reflective. And we're also able to experiment, approaching the news agenda differently from everyone else."

What this amounts to is lengthier items, exploring the background to topical issues in greater depth; coverage of lots of foreign stories; features which are distinguished by their high production values; and occasional "voice essays" by correspondents.

Time also allows the presenter, Robin Lustig, to ask forceful questions without the need to force the pace. His approach is purposely less confrontational than either John Humphrys or Jeremy Paxman, and politicians rarely complain about their treatment on *The World Tonight*. Then again, unlike *Today* or BBC2's *Newsnight*, the programme rarely sets the agenda by being quoted or followed up the next day.

In a sense, that is the whole point of *The World Tonight*. It is complementary to the more populist gladiatorial spectacles, preferring to shed light rather than generate heat.

Clearly the BBC sees its virtues. *The World Tonight* is about to branch out by producing a series of special documentaries. A good reason for the team to enjoy tomorrow's doubtless very quiet birthday toast.

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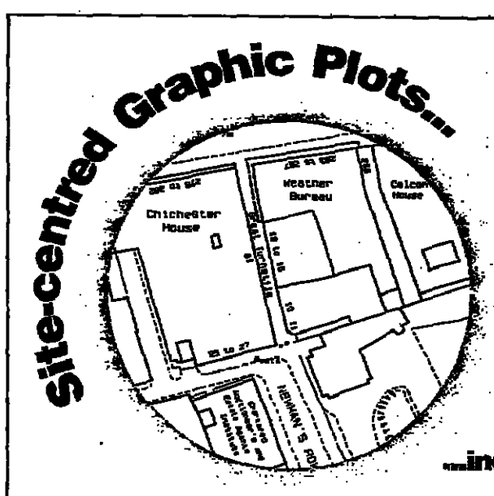
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Take-off for Heathrow plan

The area west of the airport is one of the UK's most important property markets. **Christopher Warman** on a new scheme

The lack of speculative office building suggests little faith in the commercial property market. So the announcement of a new speculative building at Heathrow is a sign that confidence is returning.

The Stockley Park Consortium has applied for planning permission for a 110,000 sq ft building designed by Arup Associates, which, if consent is given, should be completed by late spring 1996.

The announcement coincides with a claim that the west side of London, dominated by Heathrow, is one of the most important property markets in Britain outside central London. This assertion came from Angus McIntosh, director of research at Richard Ellis, the property consultancy, at a conference in London last week. He said, however, that to maintain its success, "the partnership between the public and private sectors of the economy must be supported by continued investment in infrastructure in the area".

Mr McIntosh said that, at £10 a sq ft, the Heathrow property market had the highest industrial rents in Great Britain, and that the area did not suffer from the same oversupply problems seen in many other UK locations.

Outside central London, Heathrow is one of the areas with the highest office rental levels in the UK. Since 1992, top office rents near Heathrow, he said, have had 5 per cent growth, compared with a fall of about 20 per cent generally across the country.

Demand is strong because the Heathrow office market has its lowest level of completed developments for five years: less than 200,000 sq ft of new space is available. The total available space has fallen by half, from 1 million sq ft in 1991 to 500,000 sq ft in in 1994.

Heathrow's importance can also be seen by the fact that the wider area appeals to a broad market sector because of its location in the prime M4-M25 belt. Easy access to central London and the airport is a requirement of many multinational organisations.

Stockley Park, a leading business park and used as a blueprint by many developers throughout Europe, is being developed by a consortium of Kajima, whose acquisition of Stanhope Properties' share gives it a 58 per cent stake, Prudential (25 per cent) and Chelsfield (17 per cent).

Since its formation in 1988 the consortium has completed 1.5 million sq ft of development, and has a further 80 acres of developable land on which planning consent for 550,000 sq ft of commercial office space is already secured.

This latest project, which launches phase two of the park's development, is in response to a rising demand for commercial office space in the west London-Thames Valley market. It is designed in a cruciform shape, and ideally is intended for a single occupier as a headquarters building.

The building, 3 The Square, stands within a glass "envelope", which allows its windows to be opened and maximises the amount of natural light. Andrew Vander Meersch, the consortium chief executive, said the architects had provided an exciting architectural building "while responding to clear occupier demands for high efficiency and environmentally friendly buildings with lower occupational costs".

STEWART GOLDSTEIN



Andrew Vander Meersch with a model of the consortium's scheme

For today's urban managers, partnership is the key

A blueprint for cities of the future

The need for involvement between government, and its agencies, and developers in the "risk-averse" commercial environment in which they operate is a main theme of Cities '95, a two-day exhibition and conference on issues affecting urban management. *Christopher Warman writes.*

The event, to be held in Manchester on May 23 and 24, brings together consultants, developers, local authorities and regeneration organisations, and is supported by the Department of the Environment, British Urban Regeneration Association and Civic Trust.

The organisers point out that the main area of activity for fresh initiatives — such as City Challenge, the Public Finance Initiative and the last wave of urban development corporations — has been in urban areas. Though they consume a lesser proportion of overall government grant, they are still a government priority. In the field of property development, marginal or speculative schemes have increasingly been appraised in the context of government initiatives. The latter allow an element of comfort to entrepreneurial developers and investors, but nevertheless seek to transfer risks from the public sector, which they have traditionally been reluctant to absorb.

At the beginning of this century, 5 per cent of the world's population lived in cities. Today, that figure is estimated to be 42 per cent, and by 2020 will have increased to 52 per cent. It was the growing recognition of the impact of cities, combined with the more proactive role being encouraged by the Government and implemented by city managers throughout the UK that encouraged Jeremy Sale and Nick Clarworthy to establish Cities. Now in its third year, it acts both as a marketplace and as a clearing house for ideas.

The concept of partnership, promoted by the Government and by developers such as Godfrey Bradman in the 1980s, is likely to grow to fruition in the more cautious and less aggressive marketplace in which developers now conduct their transactions. Today's climate is one in which the planning policies of the 1980s are being reversed by the Government, with John Gummer, Secretary of State for the Environment, giving greater emphasis to in-town opportunities and the apparatus required to provide developers with the necessary comfort to manage and balance risk.

One result of the Government's Public Finance Initiative, for example, has been to open up opportunities for the former defence lands in Plymouth now controlled by Plymouth Development Corporation. The latter's ability effectively to partner the developer has yielded many inquiries, and this model is seen very much as a blueprint for future forms of urban development in Britain and on the Continent.



The Government has promoted fresh development in Plymouth

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FESTIVALS page 31
The second part of our summer guide: today, the finest cultural feasts on mainland Europe

ARTS

TOMORROW
Why starring in Dumb and Dumber was an exceedingly smart move for Jeff Daniels



THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** enjoys a powerful new social drama. Plus an Easter puzzler

In the name of the father

One Fine Day
Albery

The settings give this rewarding piece its emotional shape. The first is a cosy kitchen on a spruce blue-collar estate in Liverpool: pine furniture, washing machine, melon and strawberry magnets on the fridge door. The second is a grotty bedsit perched over an invisible butty shop. The third is a white police cell stripped of everything but a loo and a lot of forlorn graffiti, and the fourth brings us full circle back to a kitchen that somehow contrives to look sadder than when we first saw it. Since this is a one-man play, written by Dennis Lumborg and performed by Joe McGann, you will gather that the protagonist's dramatic journey has its potholes.

Not that you would guess so from the first half-hour. Looking like some friendly neighbourhood bloodhound, McGann's Eddie wanders about talking of his wife, the children he adores, and his boyhood. He remembers how he embarrassed his mum by clapping in unison with two dogs who were playing a curiously rhythmic game of piggyback, and how he determined he would be open and natural about the facts of life with his own kids. There are comfy references to *Blue Peter*. You begin to wonder if, for all his waggish humour, he isn't an excessively soft, sentimental fellow.

Even if the collapse of *Cell Mates* meant that the Albery was unexpectedly dark, what had made the impresario Bill Kenwright so keen to hurry this amusing but low-powered piece down from Liverpool Playhouse? The answer to the question that must have been forming in every mind came with one twist of Julie Godfrey's set. Suddenly Eddie, jolly father and family man, is alone and, though the droll jokes continue, very worried indeed. He has had a call from the social services, and his secure little world is in tatters.

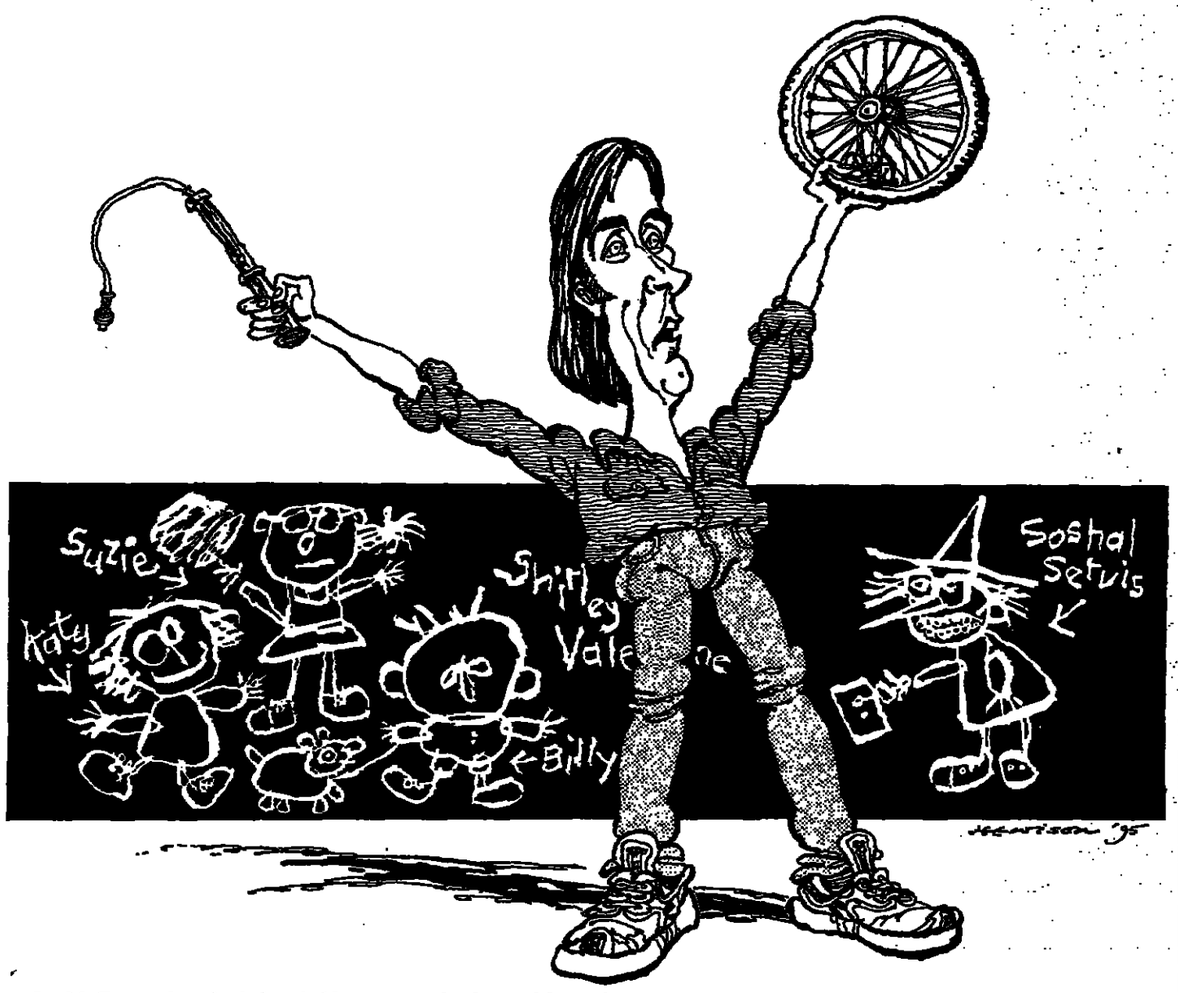
Since this is one of those satisfactory surprises which genuinely shock, yet in retrospect seem logical and predictable, I am almost inclined to halt this review right here. You might do better to go and see the estimable McGann ruefully coping with disaster than read on.

Certainly, I can no longer conceal that the play treats a fashionable theme in what is, however, a far from modish manner. Recall what happened in the Orkneys, Cleveland and elsewhere? The subject is child abuse or, rather, the accusation of it.

Eddie's daughter, who has stumbled on her parents' lovemaking, cheerfully recounts the experience in a school playground that gradually fills with children, dinner ladies and the headmaster. The girl is referred to the social services. Inconclusive but vaguely troubling examinations occur. Eddie punches what he regards as a dirty-minded interviewer. He sees doubt in his wife's eyes. He slams out of the happy home and proceeds to behave in a self-destructive way.

Maybe there is a weakness in the play here. A bright, articulate working man, which is what Eddie is, would surely get himself a lawyer. Instead, he grabs his children from the school forecourt, inadvertently managing to acquire a friend of his daughter's in the process, and takes them paddling in the buff at the seaside. Arrested and quizzed by a killer-cop, he takes revenge in the way he thinks will most upset his persecutor, by kissing him on the ear. It is not wholly plausible, but it allows Lumborg to make his point. In our determination to eradicate abuse, we risk misinterpreting love, befouling innocence and anathematising good people.

The play could go deeper. It might even leave a doubt in our minds about Eddie's deeper motives, the erotic lines in these cases being subtle and elusive. As it is, the impression is sometimes of David Mamet's political-correctness play, *Oleanna*, as it might have been rewritten by John Godber. But that would be to overlook Lumborg's narrative energy, his skill with dramatic speech, his unpretentious humanity and his ability to sustain humour without trivialising a dark subject. An admirable and, by the end, engrossing evening.



Joe McGann takes single-handed honours as the doomed father in Dennis Lumborg's dark tale. Illustration by Bill Hewison

After Easter
Barbican Pit

GRETA, sweet-natured but turned inside-out by religious visions, is the central character of Anne Devlin's puzzling play. Its content bewildered Benedict Nightingale at the Stratford premiere last May, and leaves me no less baffled.

Greta is born into an Ulster Catholic family at war with itself, where the father is a communist fisherman and the mother sells communion dresses to the needy. Greta imagines she has escaped her poisoned heritage by marrying an Englishman but since he is a Marxist, she is evidently still firmly nailed to the family tree.

Another sister has also exiled herself to England. A third sister has stayed at home and is raising five children in the Faith, but an ill-prepared development shows her turning against her mother in the family row around the father's coffin. Their brother is gay but nothing is made of this.

The play appears to be saying that an Ulster Catholic woman must attend to her roots before new growth will flourish. But the way the play is written never persuaded me that the principal characters had much reality. The movement between anguished tension and quiet grace in Stella Gonet's Greta is attractive to watch, but it is a pity she has to report so many of her shattering experiences in lengthy and rhapsodic speeches. The director, Michael Attenborough, should have asked for a rewrite.

JEREMY KINGSTON

CONCERTS: Reviewed by **Hilary Finch**

Tempted by the sunlight

Rotterdam PO/Flor
Festival Hall

HARD on the heels of their colleagues across the polders, the Rotterdam Philharmonic arrived at the South Bank at the start of their tour of the UK and Ireland a week after the Royal Concertgebouw had appeared at the Barbican.

They are by no means the B-team. Their Shostakovich Tenth Symphony may not have had the compelling inner momentum which their own principal conductor, Valery Gergiev, would surely have brought to it, but their well-groomed, supple body of strings is nicely complemented by characterful and highly accomplished woodwind and brass soloists, who came into their own in this symphony.

At times they seemed a little pinioned by Claus Peter Flor's often sturdy and steady beat. A touch more unseemly, mocking swagger would have sharpened the contrast of their serenading in the third movement; and an ear more acutely open to their own keening songs would have perhaps given the outer movements as a whole, deeper, broader breath. The orchestra seemed a superbly working instrument which never quite dared to go into overdrive.

Andreas Haefliger was the soloist in Mozart's A Major Piano Concerto K488, and he took a dark view of the work. The downward pull of melody and harmony dominated in an opening movement restrained in its energy. Haefliger's clarity of articulation and of vision carved deep tragedy out of a truly slow movement which, for once, was not impatient to kick its heels off into the finale.

Even here, Haefliger's playing was vigorous but mirthless. Even when the sunlight of a passing happy modulation lit a woodwind solo, his own imitation of it was held back by a hesitant little moment of rubato.

There was joy, though, in his own close, chamber-musicianly empathy with the orchestral players: his forthcoming solo and chamber recitals are eagerly awaited.

Seizing the day

ROH Soloists/ Haitink
Wigmore Hall

OCCASIONALLY those subterranean and nocturnal creatures, the musicians of the Royal Opera House orchestra, surface into visibility and give a concert all their own. There will be one at the Barbican on April 24, for instance, and another on May 22. Sunday's Wigmore Hall concert, though, presented by the Park Lane Group in association with the Royal Opera House, was the first time the orchestra's soloists had broken away from the pack.

At first it seemed as if the fresh air and the hard, bright light of the outside world was too much for them. Despite some beautifully focused flute playing from Sarah Brooke, Mozart's D Major Flute Quartet was dutiful, score-bound, with all too little sense of the delights of musical camaraderie.

Brooke was joined by three more of her colleagues for Ravel's *Introduction and Allegro* for harp, flute, clarinet and string quartet. Jeffrey Dyball is a robust harpist, and when he took the lead — and a risk or two as well — the ensemble caught fire, and glowed in the softly diffused light of John Payne's fine clarinet playing and Ravel's own cross-rhythms and gently oblique harmonies.

There are very few occasions when one would ever wish Bernard Haitink off the platform; but his presence, standing solemnly to conduct Mozart's Serenade in B Flat for wind instruments, did seem a little superfluous in such an evening of chamber music-making. Entries inevitably tended to be obedient rather than intuitive, and the announcement of the Theme (before the Variations) was rather more circumspect than it might have been without the presence of the lord and master.

But, with Haitink's own musicianship pervading the performance, there had to be gains as well. The rich and complex mosaic of dark colours which surfaced from the accompanying voices of basset-horns, horns and bassoons in the two slow movements was very much of his making. Just as moments from *Idomeneo* flickered through the subconscious here, so passing images of *Il Seraglio* lit the boisterous Rondo. And, as elegant dance-master supreme, Haitink set his indelible stamp on two highly characterful and irresistible Minuets.

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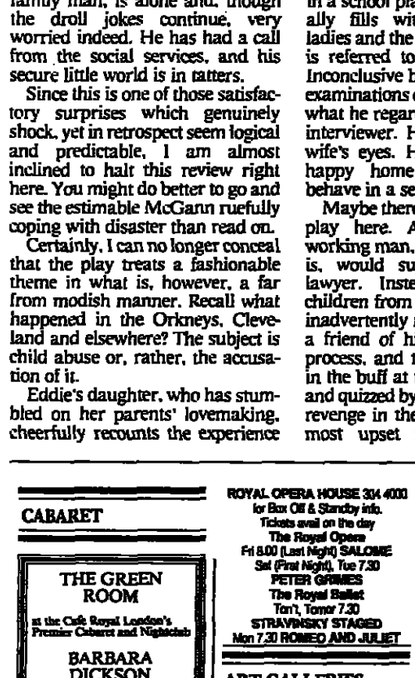
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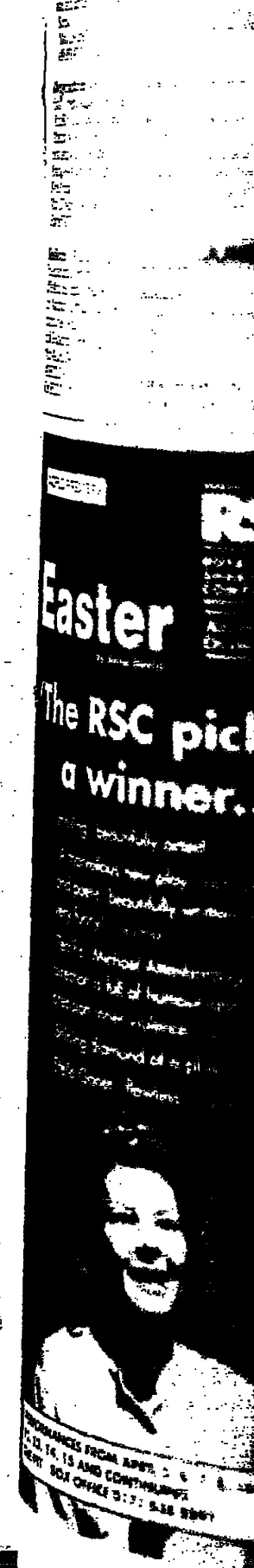
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ERICH HARTMANN/MAGNUM

Street fun, stage finesse: the centuries come together in July for five weeks of opera, concerts and theatre in Salzburg, the city forever associated with Mozart, its greatest son

Flanders: An early music lover's fantasy, especially in Bruges and Antwerp. Meanwhile in Brussels, the Israel Philharmonic and Jessye Norman consider the inspiration of folk song and non-Western cultures on Brahms, Haydn and Bartók.
April-Oct (32.2.6401525. Fax 6497597)

Luxembourg: Every art form is squeezed into the European City of Culture for 1995: contemporary paintings; Edward Steichen's photography; theatre, opera and dance (Merce Cunningham); film and rock. Classical concerts are spread across the year.
April 3-Dec 16 (352.728347, Fax 727112)

Monte Carlo: Printemps des Arts invigorates the Riviera. Vladimir Ashkenazy plays Beethoven. Ute Lemper sings Piaf and Dietrich.
April 15-May 17 (33.93158303, Fax 93506694)

Schwetzingen: Concerts and operas near Stuttgart, including Salieri's *Falstaff* and Purcell's *The Indian Queen*.
April 29-June 5 (49.711.9293038, Fax 9292600)

Bergen: Recitals from Kiri Te Kanawa and Felicity Lott. Also literary events, ballet and drama in this small but special Norwegian festival.
May 24-June 4 (47.55312170, Fax 55315531)

Brescia-Bergamo Pianistico: Lashings of Beethoven and a homage to Bartók from pianists including Radu Lupu, Dezsö Ranki, Christina Ortiz.
May 4-June 6 (39.30.293022, Fax 2400771)

Dresden: Concerts in church, schloss or outdoors, including Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*. Operas include Wagner's *Tristan* and Britten's *Turn of the Screw*.
May 20-June 5 (49.351.4715097, Fax 4717896)

Drottningholm: Swedish festival opera season lines up Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*; Martín y Soler's *Una cosa rara* and a new production of François-André Philidor's *Tom Jones*.
May 27-Sept 4 (46.8.6651400, Fax 6651473)

Feldkirch: Brigitte Fassbaender and Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau celebrate Schubert in an Austrian festival that encompasses Schloss Achberg and Feldkirch's forest stage.
May 4-June 24 (43.5522.38001, Fax 5522.38005)

Florence Maggio Musicale: Opera, including Mozart's unfinished *Zaide* and Schubert's *Fierrabras*. Plus the Budapest Festival Orchestra.
May 11- July 4 (39.55.211158, Fax 277410)

Vienna: Operatic world premiere of *Die Wände*, by Adriana Hölsky. Nikolaus Harnoncourt presents Haydn's *L'anima del filosofo*. Ariane Mnouchkine brings Molière's *Tartuffe*.
May 5-June 11 (43.1.58922-0)

Budapest: Open-air theatre, art and Music Week.
June 1-Aug 27 (36.1.1179839, Fax 1179910)

Amsterdam: The theme is Art and Resistance. Theo Loevendie's opera *Esmée* is set during the Nazi occupation, while Mbongeni Ngema's musical hopes for post-apartheid peace. Theatrical fare includes the Maly Drama Theatre.
May 31-June 30 (31.20.6276566, Fax 6203459)

Arjeplog: The Lapland Festival. Sweden's largest chamber music affair, centres on Beethoven, Bartók and Bach.
June 29-July 9 (46.961.14270, Fax 10595)

Athens/Epidaurus: Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides at the Odeon of Herod Atticus, below the Acropolis, along with opera, ballet and orchestras. Ancient Greek drama at Epidaurus.
Athens June-Sept; Epidaurus July-Aug (Greek Tourist Board (0171-734 5997)

Bad Kissingen: Orchestras and ensembles, readings, drama and jazz in the Bavarian spa town.
June 15-July 16 (49.971.807110, Fax 807191)

Bothnian Music Festivals: Half in Sweden, half in Finland. Yuri Bashmet, Truls Mörk and more join cellist Frans Helmerson for his coordinated Umeå Chamber Music Festival and Korsholm Music Festival.
June 16-21 (358.61.322 2390, Fax 322 2393)

Granada: The Alhambra, the cathedral and Renaissance monastery host events exploring the links between European music and other cultures.
June 23-July 9 (34.58.220022, Fax 222322)

Lockenhaus: Violinist Gidon Kremer founded this chamber music festival in a tiny Austrian village. Concerts in the banqueting hall of the Gothic fortress and the pilgrims' church.
June 29-July 9 (43.2616.2224 or Heritage Cultural Tours, 0181-761 0444)

Ludwigsburg: Opera takes turns with dance: this year John Eliot Gardiner's *The Magic Flute* is preceded by international choreography from the Cloud Gate Dance Theatre and Chandralekha. Soloists include Yo Yo Ma and Julian Bream.
June 9-Sept 16 (49.7141.9396-0)

Ravenna: Concerts, opera and dance, notably flamenco from Ballet Cristina Hoyos.
June 18-July 25 (39.544.482494)

St. Petersburg White Nights: The Maryinsky Theatre presents Zeffirelli's production of *Aida*, Shostakovich's *Katerina Izmaylova* and Strauss's *Salome*. Placido Domingo sings in concert for one night.
June - 15-30 Friends of the Kirov Opera (0171-608 1375 or Intourist, 0171-538 8600)

Schleswig-Holstein: Pierre Boulez spends his 70th birthday in Lübeck and homage is paid to Czech composers Dvořák, Smetana and Martinu.
June 25-Aug 20 (49.40.248211-0, Fax 2803564)

Spoleto: Menotti's Umbrian festival offers, among fine opera and concerts, the Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre and Robert Lepage's *Seven Streams of the River Ota*.
June 24-July 16 (39.6.3210288, Fax 3200747)

Venice: In its centenary year, the Venice Biennale's art exhibits range from America (Bill Viola) to Australia (Bill Henson). Leon Kossoff's paintings will be in the British Pavilion.
June 11-Oct 15 (39.41.5218711)

JULY

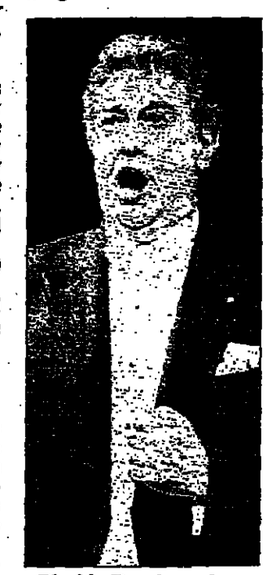
Aix-en-Provence: Classical music in picturesque surrounds, from the cathedral to the archbishop's palace. Rossini's opera *Le Comte Ory* in a new production.
July 11-30 (33.42173400, Fax 42961261)

Avignon: Theatre, music and dance in picturesque Provence. Ariane Mnouchkine directs *Tartuffe*, plus choreographers Lucinda Childs and Pina Bausch.
July 7-30 (33.90826708, Fax 90850932)

Antibes: France's leading jazz festival boasts Fats Domino, Ray Charles, B.B King and many more.
July 17-25 (33.92.905300, Fax 905301)

Bayreuth: A year of Wagner revivals. The *Ring* conducted by James Levine: Placido Domingo sings *Parsifal*.
July 25-Aug 28 (49.921.20221)

Bregenz: *Fidelio* afloat on a lakeside stage in Austria. Indoors is Rimsky-Korsakov's *The Invisible City of Kitezh*, and renowned symphony orchestras.
July 21-Aug 22 (43.5574.4920-223, Fax 4920-228)



Placido Domingo sings *Parsifal* at Bayreuth

Copenhagen: Ten days and nights of international jazz.
July 7-16 (Danish Tourist Board 0171-259 5959)

Gstaad: Yehudi Menuhin's notable music festival, held amid the Alps in a giant tent.
July 21-Sept 9 (41.30.48838, Fax 48747)

The Hague: American critics named North Sea Jazz the best jazz fest outside America. Bebop, salsa, blues and big names.
July 14-16 (31.15.157756)

Kuhmo Chamber Music: Top-class music from early morning to the small hours in this tiny Finnish town.
July 16-30 (358.0.493867, Fax 493956)

Munich: A mighty bout of opera. Peter Konwitschny directs *Parsifal*, Günter Kramer's *La Traviata* runs alongside Ennosuke Ichikawa's staging of Strauss's *Die Frau ohne Schatten*. Dance from the Bayerisches Staatsballett. The Munich Film Festival *(49.89.2330300)* is on at the same time.
July 1-31 (49.89.2185-1920, Fax 2185-1903)

Orange: The ancient amphitheatre in Provence provides an extraordinary backdrop for Verdi's *Aida* and *Rigoletto*.
July 8-31 (33.90.518383)

Pori: Thousands throng this Finnish town, absorbing the latest in jazz in the parks and factory buildings. Some bed down in schoolrooms or on the shuttling night train.
July 15-23 (358.39.550 5550, Fax 550 5525)

Salzburg: Five new opera productions: Luc Bondy's new *Marriage of Figaro* with Bryn Terfel: *Rosenkavalier* (Maazel conducting); Luis Pasqual's *Traviata*; Robert Wilson's *Bluebeard's Castle* (Dohnányi); and Berg's *Lulu*, staged by Peter Mussbach. Theatre includes Peter Stein's *Antony and Cleopatra* and *The Cherry Orchard*.
July 25-Aug 31 (43.662.8045)

Savonlinna: Operas and concerts in a Finnish castle courtyard. Wagner's *Flying Dutchman*, Verdi's *Macbeth*, *Tosca* (a Kirov staging), *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk* and the premiere of Sallinen's *The Palace*.
July 8-Aug 5 (358.57.576750, Fax 358.57.21866)

Vadstena Academy: Operas in the Swedish town's beautiful Old Theatre and Wasa Castle: this year, Donizetti's *Il fortunato inganno*.

Aarhus: Theatre, opera, ballet, film and music take over the old Danish harbour city. Jazz festival in July.
Sept 2-10 (Danish Tourist Board 0171-259 5959)

Berlin: This year's festival imports the arts from Moscow in particular. The Reichstag will also be wrapped by Christo, from mid-June.
Aug 30-Oct 1 (49.30.25489-250. Fax 25489-111)

Biarritz: Latin American films, theatre, music.
Sept 25-Oct 1 (33.59 223700, Fax 221419)

Brno: Czech orchestras alongside international ensembles. Also ballet and opera.
Sept 25-Oct 14 (42.5.42215116, Fax 42211358)

Burgenland Haydn: A celebration of Haydn in the schloss and churches where he used to conduct.
Sept 8-17 (43.26.82618660)

Linz Brucknerfest: Austria's maestro is contrasted with contemporary composers.
Sept 10-Oct 1 (43.732.775230)

Mondsee: Chamber music festival founded by Andras Schiff, focusing this year on Haydn and Czech composers. Concerts in the palace and churches of this Austrian lakeside town.
Sept 2-9 (43.6232.2407, Fax 6232.3544)

Nicosia: The capital of Cyprus hosts European Cultural Month.
Sept 15-Oct 20 (Cyprus Tourist Office, 0171-734 9822)

OCTOBER

Bratislava: Music from Julian Lloyd Webber and East European orchestras. Also films.
Sept 29-Oct 13 (42.7.330378, Fax 332029)

Cork: Big jazz jamboree and film festival.
Film Festival Oct 1-8 (353.21.271711); Jazz Festival Oct 27-30 (353.21.270463)

Dublin: Theatre fêted. The Abbey presents *The Only True History of Lizzie Finn*, Sebastian Barry's new play.
Oct 2-14 (353.1.6778122)

Wexford: Rare opera: Rimsky-Korsakov's *Mayskaya noch (May Night)*; Pietro Mascagni's *Iris*, and *Saffo*, by Giovanni Pacini.
Oct 19-Nov 5 (353.53.22400, Fax 24289)

Lucerne: Orchestras give two concerts a day to the end of summer. Late nights with Steve Reich or the Kronos Quartet.
Aug 16-Sept 9 (41.41.233562, Fax 237784)

Pesaro: Rossini's birthplace honours him with his own operas.
Aug 12-25 (39.721.34473)

Tampere: Hundreds of shows, indoors and out in this Finnish city. Tampere also has a Jazz Happening in November and a Choir Festival in June.
Aug 15-20 (358.31.214.0992, Fax 223 0121)

Utrecht: Another annual bonanza of early music in an immaculately medieval city.
Aug 25-Sept 3 (31.30.362236, Fax 322798)

AUGUST

Helsinki: Multi-arts festival, including theatre director Peter Sellars and conductor Oliver Knussen.
Aug 20-Sept 3 (358.0.1354522, Fax 2781578)

Lorient: Bearing harps and Uillean pipes, the clans gather in Brittany for the mighty Festival Interceltique.
Aug 4-13 (33.97.212439, Fax 643413)

● *The Bury St Edmunds festival referred to last week runs from May 11 to 27*

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Required to work with the Assistant to the President of the University, in this highly confidential post, the Secretary will provide secretarial/administrative support to the President, will help to ensure the smooth running of an interesting and busy office. Excellent wordprocessing and audio skills essential. Friendly, mature outlook with some flexibility to working hours, good telephone manner. Applicants should have a minimum of 2 years relevant experience. Benefits include free medical and life insurance, pension plan after qualifying service, 20 days annual holiday and free lunches. Salary c£15,000 pa.

Richmond is an equal opportunities employer.

Apply by post or fax with CV and letter to Director Personnel Services, Richmond College, Queens Road, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6JP by 18th April 1995.

For full job description.
Phone 0181 332 8237; Fax 0181 332 0128

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 9994

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX: 0171 481 9313

Fast Track Future! £15,000 + Bens

Are you an ambitious graduate - hungry to learn and with the drive to succeed? If so this energetic financial consultancy offers you an incredible opportunity. You'll be one of the team, lending support whilst learning the business. Deal with clients, prepare presentations, liaise with the press - a hectic day is guaranteed! Progression beyond a secretarial role is assured if you have the skills to impress. 50wpm + typing and a windows package essential. Age 22-25. Kick start your career by calling Susannah or Sarah on 0171 377 9919

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Probably The Most Exciting Receptionist Position In Town! To £15,000

Are you bright and capable with some basic reception experience? Do you need a new and challenging role? This position covering a busy reception area requires someone with a natural ability to deal confidently with clients over the phone and in person whilst also managing the variety of additional tasks that continuously arise! If you are used to juggling your day, you want to take a step forward and you are aged between 18 and 26 call Isobel for more information on 0171 437 6032.

HOBSTONES
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Temps! Temps! Temps! to £10.00/hour

We urgently need experienced temporary secretaries and receptionists to join our thriving teams in the West End and City. Experience on at least one of the following WP's is essential:

- Word for Windows
- AmiPro
- WordPerfect 5.1
- WordPerfect for Windows

If you have at least 2 year's experience, a positive and flexible approach and are looking to broaden your experience, call us for an immediate interview.
City: Victoria, Joyce and Tina: 0171 377 9919
West End: Liz, Lisa, Holly and Caroline: 0171 437 6032

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Is Administration Your Forte? To £17,000 plus excellent perks

Dynamic West London company is seeking a superb office administrator to deal with all aspects of office services from liaising with suppliers, dealing with purchase orders and administering all company travel arrangements. This position would suit someone from a strong administrative background with sound secretarial skills (Word for Windows & Excel useful) and experience of organising extensive business travel arrangements. So if you are a confident, assertive self-starter with an impressive record in office admin please telephone Kate Martin on 0171 437 6032 to arrange an immediate interview or fax your CV on 0171 494 0607.

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

1:1 in the City £18,000 + exc B Bens

Leading and successful merchant bank in EC2, seeks an experienced and well organised PA to assist one of their senior directors, with responsibility for worldwide finances. Looking after his diary, meetings, telephone calls and international travel, you will quickly become an invaluable asset to him. If you want an interesting and varied role, where your excellent skills 90/60/Wordperfect 5.1 and efficiency will be fully appreciated, are aged 25-40, then please call Esther on 0171 377 9919

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

FACULTY SECRETARIES

Art, Craft and Design (Ref: KC90)

Access, Care, Business Humanities and Languages (Ref: KC91)

£13,509-£14,832 inc L.W.

Interesting and varied work. As Faculty Secretaries, you will be responsible to the Head of Faculty, for organising and managing a hectic faculty office.

Qualities: Calm, mature, efficient and IT-literate (Windows 6.0), with the ability to organise your own and the Head of Faculty's workload and to work unsupervised.

For further details and an application form please contact Ms Ann Keane, Kensington and Chelsea College, Hortensia Road, London SW10 0QS, or telephone 0171-351 7127 ext 227 quoting the appropriate reference. Closing date for receipt of applications is 21 April 1995. To start immediately.

Kensington & Chelsea College is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Investor in People

KENSINGTON and CHELSEA COLLEGE

MAKING LEARNING A REWARDING EXPERIENCE FOR PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THEIR ADULT LIVES

SECOND JOBBER

£16K plus excellent benefits

...international and highly successful company ... efficient and professional secretary to ...

The job is demanding and will involve lots of organisation and project work as well as regular interface at a senior level.

Additionally, you will make full use of sophisticated WP/DTP skills.

If you have a minimum of six months secretarial experience and enjoy a challenging, high profile role, this offers real opportunity for an exciting career. Skills: 60 wpm.

All applications are positively welcomed. Please call *0171-726 8491*

Angela Mortimer



Has the time come to show your true potential?

Climb the Career Ladder — £20K – SW10

This is the ultimate career move for a flexible, hardworking and dedicated secretary looking for a challenge. Our client, a renowned name in the world of finance is seeking an assistant to the Company Secretary. This is a deeply involving role where you will be dealing with company benefits, personnel issues, administration and training. Typing 40wpm+. Proven admin skills and financial experience useful. Great benefits.

Junior PA — £16.5K + overtime

As junior PA to 3 Directors within this very high profile American corporation, you will be indispensable. Arranging lunches, organising complex travel arrangements and preparing expense report claims are only the beginning of what is to come. You must be extremely capable, organised and happy to work within a truly fast moving and dynamic atmosphere. Shorthand useful, typing 50wpm. Ideal role for a young secretary/PA looking for a second job.

Creative Reception! — £14K + benefits

If the idea of working in a friendly, design oriented environment where the emphasis is not only on hard work but on a relaxed team atmosphere, sounds ideal, this could be the opportunity for you! Our client, a leader in the world of design is looking for a confident and positive receptionist for their London office. Duties will encompass typing standard correspondence, screening all telephone calls, making appointments for photographers etc. Typing 35 wpm.

Gordon Yates recruits on the basis of merit and equal opportunity. Please call 0171-493 5767 today or fax us on 0171-493 7654.

GORDON·YATES
Recruitment Consultants

PLANET 24

Planet 24, is one of the most successful independent television production companies in the UK, making programmes such as The Big Breakfast and The Word. Our television projects include factual, entertainment, children's and music programmes for the BBC, ITV, and Channel 4 as well as broadcasters in Europe. We also have a highly successful developing radio business.

We are currently seeking two Director level Secretaries for the following positions:

PA to Managing Director/Executive Producer.

A second PA is sought to assist the MD and his PA in all secretarial and administrative aspects of their hectic positions.

The successful applicant will have:

- previous TV and Director level experience
- excellent communication & written skills
- the ability to work under pressure & willingness to work long hours
- tact, diplomacy & confidence
- ability to work as part of a team
- excellent shorthand/audio/WP (Word for Windows) and administrative skills.

PA to Finance Director

The Finance Director requires a PA who has previous finance director level experience. Applicants must possess the skills listed above and in addition should be numerate.

If you are interested in applying for either position, please write with a full CV, plus current salary to:

Jane Walker, Personnel Department, Planet 24, The Planet Building, Thames Quay, 195 Marsh Wall, London, E14 9SG
Closing Date: Thursday 13 April 1995.

MARKETING SECRETARY

As Europe's leading international property advisors marketing and corporate communications is one of our most vital functions.

We are seeking to recruit a Secretary for the Marketing and Corporate Communications Department with an interest and preferably previous experience in the marketing world. You should have a working knowledge of Word Perfect 5.1, Freelance graphics if possible and have proven experience of working on your own initiative. In addition to the secretarial content of the job you will be required to become involved in ad-hoc marketing and PR projects.

We offer a demanding, but fun working environment and a competitive remuneration package including IRSTL, BUPA and a profit related bonus. We also offer excellent training and career opportunities.

If you would like to apply for this position, please send a full CV including salary expectations to Sally Gollen, HR Adviser, DTZ Debenham Thorpe, 44 Brook Street, London W1A 4AG. Application deadline: Friday 14th April 1995 (NO AGENCIES).

DTZ Debenham Thorpe

First Class Secretary

With PA applications and by busy MD. Exc organisational & WP skills, will be involved in all aspects of the business. London Bridge. Sal £16,500.

Fax CV's on 0171 403 9362

Maine-Tucker

TAILORED TO PERFECTION CIRCA £17,000 + DISCOUNTS

W1 fashion house would like a Bloomindad chic fun secretary (21+ to join their marketing department. It's a full secretarial role (50+ typing, shorthand useful) but you'll be in a company where opportunities to begin a career in fashion are possible. Call now if you have good secretarial experience & want a job which suits you right down to the ground!

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone 0171 734 7341

Maine-Tucker

HOME FROM HOME... £18-20,000 + XMAS BONUS + MED + PENS + STL + 9.30 START

...best describes this small but unique & established W1 company. Really your office is based in an elegant townhouse, secondly you're working with a mixed friendly but small team. They don't believe in traumas or company politics AND it is a genuinely relaxed atmosphere! Their thirty something director needs a 'get involved' PA who can organise & work with him rather than for him. You need to be 25-35 with 100 s/h & 55 typing, well spoken & presented. For something a little like home, give us a call.

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SWIY 6HP
Telephone 0171 734 7341

Maine-Tucker

DOWN JERMYN STREET WAY... £16,500 + £18,000 + MED + STL + UP TO £1,000 DISCR BONUS

...you'll find mouthwatering restaurants, the finest tailors, the best in 90's fashion, perfume shops to die for, & in between your office! This prestigious established company needs two new people (22-28yrs). One PA position (£16,500) needs a knowledge & experience of public school to assist a consultant working on behalf of a portfolio of top public schools. There is also need for a PA (£18,000) for one of the senior consultants. For both of these positions good secretarial and 60 wpm is a must. You will also have to be meticulous, organised and articulate for a job which is very people orientated. It's a fun, young & go getting environment & you must be very well presented & educated (graduates welcome).

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SWIY 6HP
Telephone 0171 734 7341

Maine-Tucker

A LISTENING EAR... £14,000 + 5 WKS + HOLS + MED + GYM + DISCR BONUS

...is very important for this position as this unique 'counselling' style Maine-Tucker company. Many bright & intelligent achievers pass through the doors here & you'll need many of these. They will not only rely on your typing skills, but your ability to help troubleshoot & help out where you can with other business problems. It's a small team, but friendly. You must be well presented, have good accurate typing (60wpm) & confidence too.

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SWIY 6HP
Telephone 0171 734 7341

Maine-Tucker

THINK ON YOUR FEET! £18,000 + Pkg worth £6,000

A team of fund managers in the city need an enthusiastic secretary/ research assistant - A level educated - possibly a graduate with secretarial experience. An enormous amount of responsibility and potential for growth. Candidates need to be computer literate, proactive and articulate - with superb organisational skills. A real opportunity to get involved and use your brain power! Call Emily Aldrich on 0171 588 8999

Aldrich – Recruitment Consultants

Maine-Tucker

6 Mth Contract VIDEO CONFERENCE MANAGER

c £18,000 pro rata + LV's + FLEXI HRS

This is a way into legal you thought wasn't possible! Some of the most exciting legal cases in the world often involve our top legal people in this country. Using the latest technology, you as this prestigious legal's group Video Conferencing Studio Manager can co-ordinate vital video conferences for clients here and overseas, which means that some of this work is live! You are not a secretary but you will need keyboard skills for Microsoft Word, & you must be level headed to administrate a wealth of different cases. You'll have no work to hard, for you're responsible for what you do, and when you do it. It's your job to make these videos an essential part of any Barrister's case, & by doing this, you are actually making history yourself, by being involved in one of the most innovative ways of administering the law. A unique once in a life time opportunity makes this worth going for!

18-21 Jermyn Street, London SWIY 6HP
Telephone 0171 734 7341

Maine-Tucker

P.A. - 1:1 £19,000 + Bank Benefits

Civilised, sophisticated, friendly and fast moving - a Senior Investment Banker requires an experienced PA to manage his office and co-ordinate the admin for the department. An interesting and challenging role with a blue chip European investment bank. Call Sarah Turnbull on 0171 588 8999

Aldrich – Recruitment Consultants

Bloomin' Brilliant! to £10 per hour

Join the Crone Corkill temporary team this spring and you too can blossom into one of the most sought after temporary secretaries in London.

We are seeing a real growth in the number of assignments from a sluggish January and the forecast looks good with a change in the current climate which we expect to continue throughout the spring and summer.

For sustained growth and maximum exposure you need fast & accurate typing (60wpm) together with an excellent grounding in a windows environment. Teamed with your flexible and mature approach we can then provide you with the sustenance you will need to flourish:

- A well established client base offering long and short term bookings
- Excellent hourly rates
- A professional and cultivated service from our team of seasoned temporary controllers.

Ring us now to join the team 0171 434 4512 West End

Crone Corkill
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SOTHEBY'S FOUNDED 1744

We are seeking to recruit secretaries and administrators for vacancies in several departments, including Wine, Special Events and Business Development.

Although the skills and qualifications required may vary, all positions will demand strong secretarial and administrative skills. Applicants should include their typing, audio, and shorthand speeds, and indicate which wordprocessing and/or spreadsheet packages they have used previously.

First-class interpersonal skills and a clear commitment to excellence in providing a professional client service are essential.

The salaries for these positions will vary according to age and experience.

We occasionally require temporary secretarial staff, and would also be interested to receive CVs from people seeking short or longer-term temporary assignments.

Applicants should send a comprehensive CV to the Personnel Department, Sotheby's, 34-35 New Bond Street, London, W1A 2AA.

No agencies please

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

c. £20 - £25,000 pa

Multi-Task Retailing — Surrey

This senior support role will report directly to the Operations Director of one of the UK's fastest growing high-technology retailers.

To cope with a high level of responsibility and commensurate workload, the right applicant must be:

- A first class PA whose career demonstrates achievement and stability.
- Articulate and literate with shorthand and computer skills (preferably WordPerfect 5.1 Dos, 6.1 Windows).
- Intelligent, resourceful and well-organised.
- Presentable and well-spoken with a good sense of humour and calm disposition.

To apply, telephone Marc Zundel on (01344) 874174 fax: (01344) 874103 or forward your CV and handwritten covering letter to:

Strategic Selection (Ref. MZ/PA), Coworth Park House, Ascot, Berkshire, SL5 7SF

Strategic SELECTION

MASTERLOCK RECRUITMENT

CONSULTANCY PA TO MD c£25,000

Our client, a world leader in the field of environmental issues is looking to recruit a top level PA for the MD.

He requires someone who will prioritise large volumes of work, handle all paper related activities and juggle his diary making his time twice as available.

The successful candidate will have advanced WP5.1 skills, an academic background, easy access to W1 and proven relevant experience.

Contact Kerry McClelland on 0171 929 5252 x2241 or fax 0171 621 1679

SENIOR SHORTHAND PA £20K & Bens

Top calibre PA, must be articulate with immaculate presentation. Excellent secretarial skills and organisational skills required for this busy Finance Director working within a prestigious Retail Company. If you have 4 yrs experience at Director Level and speeds of 100/70wpm.

Call Jane 0171 258 9422

SA Agy

Tate and THE TIMES APPOINTMENTS

INVITE HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGERS AND THEIR SECRETARIES

TO A FREE BREAKFAST BRIEFING

"PRESENTING YOURSELF"

BY THE COUNTRY'S LEADING IMAGE CONSULTANT AND AUTHOR

MARY SPILLANE

If you don't look successful, no-one will think you are. Statistics show that 55% of the impact we make when meeting people for the first time is down to the way we dress, act and walk through the door. However, many people will hold back their own career progression by dismissing the relevance of personal appearance to success.

The simple message is that image matters.

Mary Spillane is the founder of CMB Image Consultants, Europe and the author of the *Presenting Yourself* titles for men and women. At this Breakfast Briefing she will examine:

- ★ Why image is vital in getting a job and securing promotion
- ★ How a company gets its people to project corporate values by how they dress and behave
- ★ What we can all learn about presenting ourselves to impress clients, gain higher exposure and better salaries!

THE TATE/TIMES BREAKFAST BRIEFING TAKES PLACE ON THURSDAY 18TH MAY 1995 AT THE HOTEL INTER-CONTINENTAL, LONDON. 8.00 am - 8.30 am.

If you wish to attend, please write stating your company and job title to: Charlotte Woodward, Tate Appointments Ltd, 70-71 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9DE Tel: 0171 408 0424 Fax: 0171 493 8790.

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"The Key to Secretarial and Office staff Consultancy"

We have permanent opportunities covering: media, accountancy, investment, advertising, insurance and many other disciplines.

CAREER OPENINGS WITHIN FINANCE £16,000 + o/t & banking benefits. Articulate secretaries required for immediate interviews. Fast typing and W4W essential.

SECRETARY/ADMIN to £14,500. To work within this media organisation for their Training Department.

DTP/ADMIN £16,000 + 25 days hol & on-site gym.

Contact Kerry McClelland on 0171 929 5252 x2241

MASTERLOCK RECRUITMENT

TEMP IN THE CITY

Our professional fun-loving Temporaries Division would love to meet enthusiastic secretaries with the following packages and a typing speed of 55wpm+.

AmiPro / Wordperfect / any Windows package

Energetic Telephonists, Receptionists and Administration staff are welcome.

Temp - Perm opportunities also available.

For a 1st class service call Rebecca Dyke on 0171 929 5252 x2235

career moves

RESEARCHER - EXEC SEARCH CO £25,000

Int'l Media Exec Search Co need experienced researcher to join team. You will be given an unusual amount of autonomy and career progression a distinct possibility.

SNR PA/SEC - LANGUAGES £19,000

A senior PA/Sec position that carries a lot of kudos and will allow you to use your European languages as you give full support to the MD and Commercial Director for Hi Tech Entertainment Co. Must have snr exp/audio/ fast typing.

RECEPTIONISTS TV + ADVERTISING £15,000

We are currently looking for confident, experienced receptionists with excellent presentation and speech who would like to move into the above fields. A good front person who enjoys people contact essential.

124 Great Portland Street, London W1N 5PF • Tel: 0171 636 6411 • Fax: 0171 636 2607



RACECOURSE HOLDINGS TRUST

Racecourse Holdings Trust is a subsidiary of The Jockey Club which owns and manages a number of the leading racecourses in the UK.

The Group Accountant/Company Secretary requires a capable Secretary/PA at their offices in the heart of the West End.

The need is for an intellegent person with initiative and excellent secretarial skills including accurate typing and WP abilities and 90 wpm shorthand. Experience of Wordperfect 5.1 would be an advantage. Essential requirements are numeracy, a sound eye for detail and good communication skills.

Salary will be up to £16,000 depending upon experience plus a range of benefits.

Please write with full CV to:

Serena Veasey, Racecourse Holdings Trust, 42 Portman Square, London W1H 0EN

Please - No agencies

The English Gardening School

PA/Secretary to assist Principal and Manager in running professional courses and one day seminars. Good administrative and communication skills with accurate typing ability and audio experience. An efficient telephone manner and the ability to remain calm despite pressure of small office and heavy workload. Word 5.1 and Filemaker Pro experience on Macintosh preferred. Knowledge of running a database essential. Experience of advertising procedures desirable. Non-smoking office.

Please apply in writing with CV to: Simon Pyle, The English Gardening School, at The Chelsea Physic Garden, 66 Royal Hospital Road, London SW3 4HS

No agencies or telephone calls please.

RECEPTIONIST/ TELEPHONIST

Experienced Receptionist / Telephonist required by City Firm of Solicitors.

The applicant must be very well presented, have an excellent telephone manner, confident, well organised and enjoy working under pressure.

Hours of work will be on a rota system and will cover the hours between 8.00am and 7.00pm. Previous experience on the Ericsson MD110 is preferred.

Excellent salary, 4 weeks holiday and season ticket loan. The Firm has a no smoking policy.

Please send a C.V. to Lynne Walters, Personnel Manager, Bird & Bird, 90 Fetter Lane, London, EC4A 1JP.

PA - Offshore Company - Cyprus

Mature, well educated person required. Should be flexible, responsible and possess excellent secretarial skills including shorthand, typing and organisation. The suitable applicant should be self-motivated with a full, clean driving licence.

The position include 1 month leave plus two air fares to the UK per annum.

Excellent negotiable salary plus annual bonus. Accommodation and car provided.

Please send CV's to:

4 Turner's Wood,
Hampstead Heath,
London NW11 6TD

Interviews to be held there 24-30 April 1995

MARKETING SECRETARY/PA

We are designers and wholesalers of luxury furnishing fabrics and require an experienced secretary with WP skills to assist a director with the marketing, PR and sales functions. Age 25+, well spoken, educated to A level standard, numerate and well-organised. Competitive salary and benefits. Apply in writing with CV to: Alison Storey, Marvic Textiles Ltd., 1 Westpoint Trading Estate, Alliance Road, Acton, W3 0RA.

No Agencies

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 9994

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

FAX: 0171 481 9313

Assistant to Sales Director

To £18,000 + Bens

Our client, a successful, well established, specialist Fund Manager is looking for a bright and proactive PA/Administrator who will throw themself into this demanding and highly involving role. Working closely alongside the Sales Director you will attend client meetings, handle their queries, follow up action points, organise complicated itineraries and liaise closely with clients at all levels. The key to success in this role will lie in your superb administrative skills and your ability to prioritise effectively. It is a position for someone who is keen to learn and progress and wants much more than a straight secretarial position. You need to be a true team player; calm, professional and committed to the highest of standards. Skills 60wpm, WP and some speedwriting or shorthand. Age 24-35 yrs. Please telephone Charlotte Pelling on 0171 396 7000 for an immediate interview

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

WORLD OF ANTIQUES

TO £20,000

Our client, a hugely successful antiques dealer, is looking for an experienced PA/Office Manager to help run his business. Often working autonomously, you will liaise regularly with clients, handle queries and become fully involved in every aspect of the business.

You will need to be numerate and computer-literate, with 60 wpm typing. If you enjoy variety and total involvement, have first class communication skills, tact and diplomacy, call us now on 0171-235 8427 (Rec Cons).

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

To £20,000 Emerging Markets

Exciting opportunity to join this prestigious consultancy which specialises in Eastern Europe as PA to the Director responsible for Moscow. Primarily working one-to-one, you will enjoy taking full responsibility for organising a boss constantly on the move. This will involve secretarial support, complicated travel arrangements, research & other ad hoc projects. In addition, you must be sufficiently flexible to share the workload of two other consultants. Excellent organisational skills & ability to work as part of a team essential. Skills 60+ typing.

The Recruitment Company
0171 831 1220

SALES ADMIN/SECRETARY

c£15,000 + Benefits

A well organised and efficient person is required to provide administrative and secretarial support to the Sales Manager of an international high-tech process control company based in Beckenham, Kent.

Ideal candidates will have an interest in Sales and Marketing, a sound secretarial background at a senior level. W4W, spreadsheet and possibly database/graphics package experience. Excellent organisational skills also required.

Please apply in writing with CV to:
Julia Brisnow
ABB Linkman Systems Ltd
County House
221-241 Beckenham Road
Beckenham, Kent BR3 4UF

ABB

Not every secretary wants an ordinary job

Some people want a special job. If you are good and looking for something different in TV, Films, Arts, Music & Publishing – call us.

JUDY FISHER ASSOCIATES
0171-437 2277
Recruitment Consultants

Excel RECRUITMENT

DIRECTORS SECRETARY/ PA X 2

c£18k + MORT SUB +

We are recruiting for an international investment company, two experienced secretaries. Based in prestigious offices in the heart of Mayfair. The successful applicants will be well presented with experience of working at mainboard director level, and together with having excellent secretarial skills, shorthand would be an asset for one of the positions. Diary management and travel arrangements would be very much part of your day-to-day duties. Preferred age range 24-36 years. The benefits are excellent including a mortgage subsidy and 5 weeks holiday.

EXCEL RECRUITMENT LIMITED
116 HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON WC1V 6RD
TEL: 0171 404 1010 FAX: 0171 404 1004

REGAN & DEAN + ADLAND

MAJOR TV CHANNEL EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT FOR DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Successful candidate will have a minimum of 5 years secretarial/administration experience, an international background & outlook and the ability to liaise professionally at senior level. It is essential to be able to work independently, to prioritise and make decisions. Some shorthand. Microsoft Word exp. Languages useful. £18,000 max.

We handle permanent and temporary secretarial recruitment for the media & creative industries.

0171 409 3244
63 South Molton Street, London, W1

PA
TRAVEL & LEISURE PR
VICTORIA, SW1

MD of leading travel and leisure PR consultancy seeks PA. Responsibilities also include assisting two directors and day-to-day office administration. The ideal candidate will be a self-starter with an interest in public relations, hard working and have a good sense of humour. Strong secretarial skills, computer literacy, a professional telephone manner and team spirit essential. An ideal opportunity to break into PR - apply now, in writing, to:

Cathy Rhoades, TPS Group Ltd,
3 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0BD

WA

c£16,000 + Generous Clothing Discount

FASHION SW7

This is a fabulous opportunity for an intelligent Bi-lingual Sec/PA to work for this well known fashion house. Your role will be extremely diverse as you will support a dynamic director in addition to being Office Manager. Your day will be extremely diverse and your excellent communication skills will be used to liaise with fashion editors, journalists and merchandisers. You must have a proven interest in fashion, be immaculately presented and have the desire to work as an integral part of an expanding company. If you are in your mid-20's and have fluent written and spoken French and excellent shorthand, to hear more about this exciting opportunity please call Claire Hawker on 0171 225 1888.

VICTORIA WALL ASSOCIATES

SECURE £23,000 + BONUS

The Senior Vice-President of an American Securities House in London needs an outstanding PA chiefly to act as the point of liaison between New York and their European offices. This is a diverse and challenging role where you will develop your own market research projects. Age 28 - 32. Skills 100/60.

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES
071 629 9323

EXPERIENCED PA/SECRETARY

Required for the Managing Director and Marketing Manager of a well established retail optical group based in North East London. Ideally you will be 30+ with initiative, good communication skills and the ability to work as part of a team. Spreadsheet experience and WP 5.1 would be an advantage. Excellent salary depending on experience.

Please send CV to Barbara Ling
Ronald Brown Group plc
581 Lea Bridge Road, London E10 6AJ

CHAIRMAN'S PA
£22,000

SECRETARIAL & TEMPORARY appointments

Top Executive Search company based in luxurious offices in Mayfair urgently require a senior level PA to work for the Chairman. Their client portfolio includes all major blue-chip companies and therefore experience at chairman level is essential. You will be educated to degree level and have excellent secretarial and communication skills. If you are looking for a new challenge and want total involvement please call SOPHIE WADE.

Tel: 0171 379 0333
Fax: 0171 379 0113

TEMPORARY WORK ALWAYS AVAILABLE

Part of Graduate Appointments plc

AUDIO SECRETARY/ASSISTANT

Quick, accurate, flexible, organised and intelligent non-smoker for private property company. Small, friendly but busy office in pleasant environment near British Museum and Tube stations. Word for Windows essential, Excel useful.

Applications in writing with CV and details of current salary to:
Mark de Rivaz, The Bedford Estates,
29a Montague Street, London WC1B 5BL

PR SECRETARY/ RECEPTIONIST

Expanding City public relations firm seeks a secretary/ receptionist. Candidates must be bright and enthusiastic with good secretarial skills. Experience of Word Perfect 5.1 and 6.0 is essential. Salary is negotiable.

Applications in writing only stating current salary and enclosing up-to-date CV to:
Vicky Young, Focus Communications Group, 2-9 Masons Avenue, London, EC2V 5BT
Tel: 0171 600 1392 Fax: 0171 600 1365
Strictly no agencies

SECRETARY/ PA

Required immediately to work in the Sales & Marketing Division, in the Travel Industry. The right candidate must be 20-30 and have excellent secretarial and organisational skills; 60 w.p.m., knowledge of Wordperfect and Lotus 123; shorthand preferred but not essential. Salary negotiable.

Please send CV to The Personnel Officer
16-20 Baker Street, London W1M 2AD

PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO MANAGING DIRECTOR - NIGERIA

Bright, sociable assistant to Managing Director of industrial company required. Must be adaptable to undertake varied duties. Attractive salary, own accommodation provided. Please apply in the first instance with CV and recent photograph to Box No 5279

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

PARIS

Bilingual Sec/Admin Asst (fluent French) urgently required for MD - conference arrangements, classic sec wk, contact with French authorities, monthly figures etc. New offices just off the champs Elysées. Win Word/Excel 50 wpm. 28 yrs +. 160-180KF aae.

Plus, a wide range of bilingual secretarial positions for college leavers.

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Sheila Burgess
International Recruitment Consultants

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is looking for a part-time/full time secretary (male or female), fluent English-Spanish with computer skills. Good contact with clients. Please send your c.v. to:

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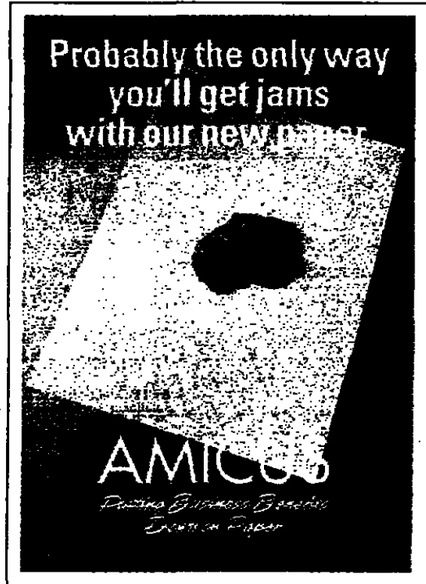
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FRENCH, to £18,000. MD & Human Resource Director of total brand named company based Maidenhead/Surrey borders are seeking a highly organised, proactive and flexible Senior Secretary (English to m/t std). Excellent opportunity to get involved and use your French. Age to 45. Good typing and WP skills ess. Tel: The Language Business 0171 379 3189 (Rec Cons)

FRENCH Head of trading seeks super-organised, fast, efficient and friendly sec/asst with fluent French (Eng MT) to help him and his small team. Involvement with conferences, trips, diaries. Challenging role with prospects for development. City exp pref. 24-30. To £20K + excl bens. Language Matters Agy 0171 930 1811

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Genix Imaging Ltd
32 Brunswick Street
London W1Y 1FS

ADMIN PA/Sec. £17,300 + Bens. Age 20-35, 60/70% Admin Mostly SH. Audio, good std of admin + exc organising skills nec. Tao Intrl Co. Next Emp. 0171-287 3664.

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c£16,000 + bens - stunning offices in St James's Park. Combining top designer names with serious players in property, this exciting co appreciates well pres, hard wrkg people who are fun to be with. Young co. Wrkg for 2. Typ min 60 wpm + W4W exp. Age 20's. Norma Stamp Rec: 0171 222 5091

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JOB-SHARE - Wonderful opp for experienced secretary to work every alternate week providing first class secretarial support to team of friendly managers at leading blue chip city based company. If you have at least two years experience, fast typing skills and the ability to work on your own initiative, please telephone Maggie on 0171 437 6032 for more details. Hobsticnes Rec Cons.

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MARKETING Sec c£17,000 + generous bonus. Blue chip co need exc audio WP sec for busy team. Pref age 25/35 Tavistock Appointments 0171 935 6866

£18,000 + Med + STL + Pens + More- A Powerpoint genius (at 20's) is wanted to work within this City company's marketing & PR dept supporting 2 young directors. You'll need to be confident & experienced on Powerpoint (55+wpm), but you'll be rewarded by lovely offices & a varied but interesting job. Please call Jaime Tucker on 0171 734 7341.

OIL - £18-19,000. Mayfair American Co. seek sec. for Production Director. Good sec. skills including some s/hand, and team player essential for small, friendly group. Age 22-30. Please call Kitty & Co Rec. Recruitment 0171 629 9648

OXFORDSHIRE. Prestigious school south of Oxford is looking for a PA/ Office Manager to support the Head. Confidence and flexible attitude and the ability to take on new projects and implement changes is a must. Ideal age 25 years +. Salary to £16,000 + 9 weeks holidays & free lunch. Please call Emma 0171 437 6032 Hobsticnes Rec Cons

PA (Aged 30-45) with headstart in personnel for friendly HR Director. Exc communications and admin skills vital, too with polished sec skills (audio or s.h with wind). Sal £16,700 + bens incl free travel - exp. worthwhile to S.W. Consultant. Call King & Tolson Recruitment 0171 629 9648

PARTNER'S Sec c£17k + bens. Major City co. Busy, varied role. Great organiser with initiative. S/h 80wpm, typing 55+wpm. Diamond Personnel 0171 929 2977 (City).

PA To Director of HR Consultancy - Central London. Your boss is an executive delegator so you must be confident, proactive & enjoy developing business relationships. S/H v.useful age 26-30 Sal c.£20,000 Please call King & Tolson Recruitment 0171 629 9648

PA to Partner. A city based financial consultancy requires a PA with a high level of computer literacy (W4W, Lotus 1-2-3). This role would be ideal for someone looking for their second job who has a logical and systematic approach to their work. A financial background would be an advantage. 100 B/H essential. Superb prospects and an excellent salary is offered AAE. Please call Angela Mortimer plc (Rec Cons) on 0171 726 8491

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SEC/Administrator needed for 6 month contract to assist primarily with the design/ implementation of electronic archiving system. Word/Excel knowledge an advantage. To £16,000 pro rata. Please call 0171 637 3212 Summers By Two Recruitment Consultants

SECRETARY required for busy Financial Consultants based close to Barbican. Accurate typing. Windows 6.0. At least two years previous experience, salary negotiable. Tel: 0171 253 6677. No agents

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TEMPTING TIMES

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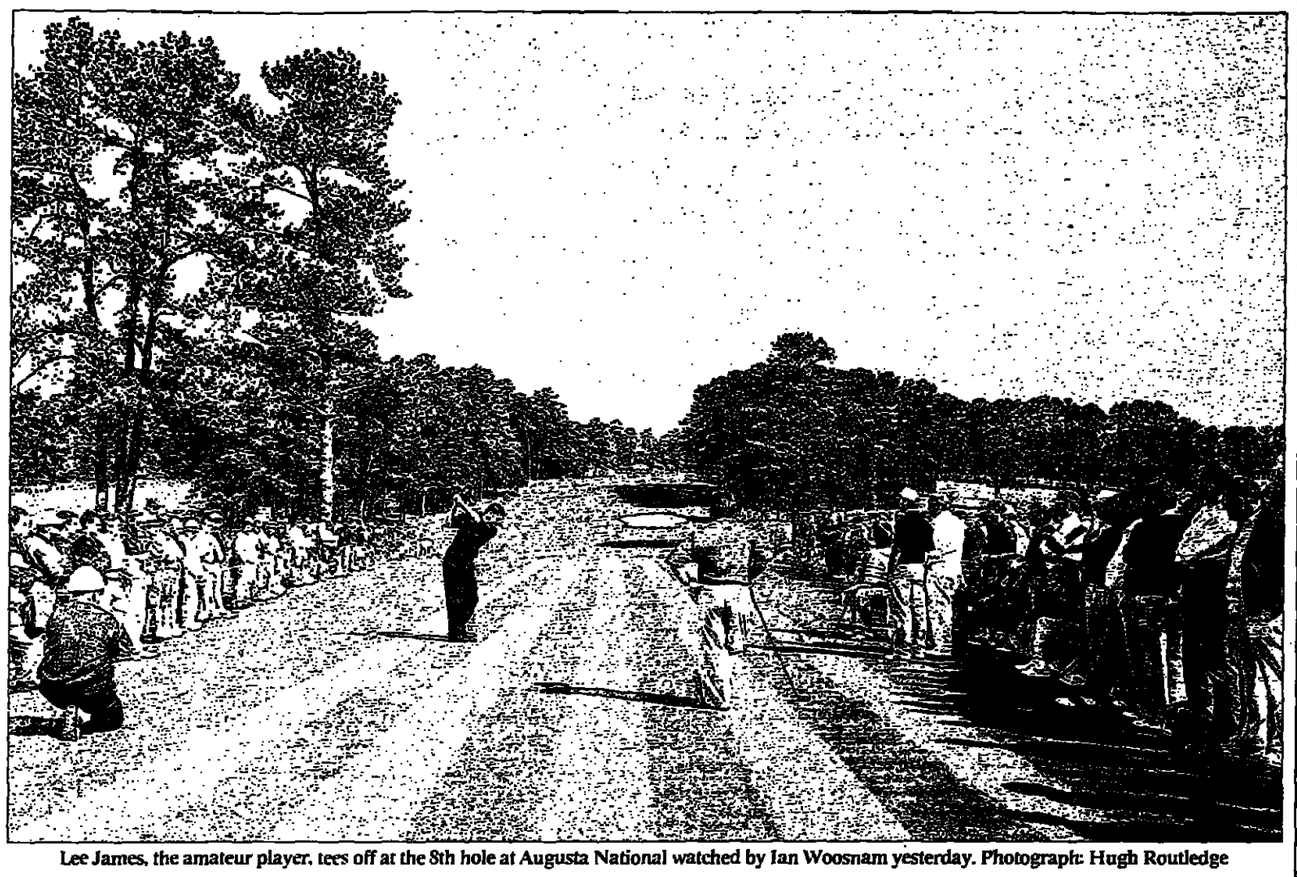
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Changing face fails to mask Masters' racial legacy



Lee James, the amateur player, tees off at the 8th hole at Augusta National watched by Ian Woosnam yesterday. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

Townsend breaks Augusta's code

FROM JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT
IN AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

AS FAMOUS as the colours are at Augusta National Golf Club, the site of a former horticultural nursery, it is colour not colours that is being talked about at the Masters, which begins tomorrow. What a difference an s makes.

It separates the colours of the flowers after which every hole at Augusta National is named from colour, one of the most important issues of twentieth-century America. That single letter is the difference between the beauty of this particular acreage of Georgia and the beast of man's injustice to man. Augusta National Golf Club, in the heart of the deep South, has approximately 300 members: only one is black. His name is Ron Townsend. He is a 53-year-old television executive in Washington DC who was born in Jacksonville, Florida, and grew up in Connecticut and New York City.

For years, tournament officials contrived to exclude black golfers from the Masters, altering the rules to keep out Charlie Sifford, the best black golfer of his generation. "I didn't want to play in that golf tournament because I liked the way the dogwoods look in the springtime or because I wanted to become a member of the club," Sifford wrote in his autobiography. "I wanted in precisely because they were trying to keep me out."

In 1975, they could do so no longer. After qualifying by defeating Peter Oosterhuis in a play-off in a tournament in Pensacola, Lee Elder became the first of his race to compete at Augusta, a place that had become a peak in the white man's game. It is this anniversary that is being celebrated this year. "When I walked past the caddie area on my way to register, the caddies came out and clapped," Elder recalled. "That's how they greeted me. It was overwhelming."

This year, too, marks the debut of Tiger Woods, 19, the American amateur, who is part black. Woods refuses to acknowledge talk of his being the best black golfer because he is also part Thai, part Chinese, part American Indian and part white, and because he wants to be known as the best golfer in the world, not the best black.



Townsend: respect

Yet you cannot avoid the colour issue at Augusta. In the clubhouse, the waiters who bring you a Peach Cobbler for pudding or scrambled eggs with grits for breakfast are predominantly black, as are the men in the locker-rooms and all the local caddies. This is what offends the visitor from Europe. The fact that it is the blacks who serve the whites is the aspect of an otherwise lovely tournament that jars.

On the lawn outside the clubhouse, beneath a spreading oak tree, everybody who is anybody in golf gathers to pass the time of day. Here, Ron Townsend can be seen flitting hither and yon in his green jacket that is the badge of honour and the signal of membership of this august club.

When he joined the club in 1990, Townsend said he felt comfortable right away, although to almost everyone else he seemed to represent the club's token nod towards liberalism. "Frankly, I would have been very uncomfortable if they [the members] had been patronising because that's not my style," Townsend said. "I don't know what role the members played in my membership because the course is really run by one person [the chairman] ... my sense is there wasn't a vote. I don't know, I've never asked. I just know I was offered to become the 300th member.

"They [the members] treat the staff with respect. And it is the South, so let's face that fact."

Townsend made these remarks in 1991. I wanted to find out his views three years on and so I lay in wait as he moved around the lawn on the sunny Sunday morning of last year's tournament, the day of José María Olazábal's victory.

"Excuse me, Mr Townsend, I'm from *The Times* of London," I said as he passed. "Could I have a word with you please?"

"I'm sorry sir," Townsend replied immediately. "I don't give interviews."

Wales set to spend £100m on plans for Arms Park

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) is committed to the maintenance of Cardiff Arms Park as its headquarters. Despite the attractions of a purpose-built stadium outside Cardiff, the union and South Glamorgan County Council joined hands yesterday to announce plans for redevelopment on the existing site that would be ready by 1999 — the year in which Wales will host the World Cup Final.

However, the plan hinges on a successful application to the Millennium Fund and the willingness of Cardiff club members to have their ground transferred to Cardiff Bay. In that event, the WRU would have the scope to create a new stadium around a pitch swung through 90 degrees to run parallel with the River Taff, with the possibility of a retractable roof.

A local opinion poll voted 2-1 in favour of staying in the city centre and the WRU has applied for a grant, expecting to hear the result by midsummer. "The objective would be for work to start before the end of this year and for it to be completed by the time of the 1999 World Cup finals," Edward Jones, the secretary of the WRU, said, though no details were given of where Wales would play their international programme while the work was in progress.

The total cost of resiting the Arms Park and moving the Cardiff club to a 25,000-capacity stadium in the docks area is mooted at £100 million. "The WRU sees the future of the ground in the capital city," Jones added, though the opportunity to relocate at a 100-acre site at Island Farm outside Bridgend, close to road, rail and air links, has much to commend it.

☐ Bath, who have recalled Victor Ubogu, the England prop, for their league match with West Hartlepool on Saturday, have registered Mark Mapletoft, the promising young full back at Gloucester, for next season. A serious knee injury prevented Mapletoft acquiring England A honours this year, but Bath may consider him as a stand-off half in the event of Mike Catt seeking to play in his international position of full back.

☐ Malaysia, who regularly compete at the Hong Kong Sevens, and Ithuba, the South African development team, are to guest at the London Floodlit Sevens at Rosslyn Park on May 3. Ithuba will also play in the Middlesex Sevens on May 13.

Ebdon dismisses Welsh challenge

PETER EBDON brushed aside the challenge of Wayne Jones, of Wales, to ease comfortably into the third round of the Castella Classic British Open snooker tournament at Plymouth yesterday (Phil Yates writes). Ebdon, of England, won 5-1 to set up a meeting with James Wattana, the Thailand Open champion, who put out Dean Reynolds, the left-hander, 5-2.

Alan McManus, of Scotland, who beat Ebdon in the final of the Dubai Classic last October, suffered another defeat in his decline since that success, losing to Dave Harold, the world No 19, 5-1. "I'm having an awful run of the balls and I can't understand it," McManus, the world No 6, said. "I'm relaxed and hitting the ball sweet enough, but things are just not going for me."

Woodley earns reward

BOWLS: Jan Woodley, of Scotland, the defending champion, and two former winners, Mary Price, of England, and Margaret Johnston, of Ireland, began their campaigns with victories in the Churchill Insurance women's world indoor championship at Cumbernauld yesterday. Woodley had to work hard for her 7-3, 4-7, 7-5 win over Mary Tosh, of Ireland, while Johnston survived a scare before beating Pat Smyth 2-7, 7-0, 7-6. Price, the winner in 1991, was in impressive form when defeating Doreen Rowlands, the Welsh champion, 7-6, 7-2.

Divers drop out

SWIMMING: Britain has withdrawn from the European Diving Cup because some of the nation's best divers have refused to affiliate to the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) of England. The Amateur Swimming Federation of Great Britain said that it had "reluctantly" made its decision to withdraw from the event, which is being held at Strasbourg, France, on April 15 and 16, because Sheffield Diving Club, whose divers make up half the British team, had declined to join the ASA.

Olympic partners

OLYMPIC GAMES: Ballroom dancing and surfing have been granted provisional recognition by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). The governing bodies of the two activities, the International Sports Dance Federation and the International Surfing Association, have two years to convince IOC members of their claims to full recognition. If successful, they would join 17 other non-Olympic sports waiting in the wings. Leading article, page 15

England include Halls

HOCKEY: Julian Halls and Robert Crutchley, who are playing for clubs in the Australian National Hockey League, will join the England squad for six matches in 11 days against Australia next month. The tour marks the start of England's preparations for the European championship, to be played in Dublin from August 16 to 27.

ITINERARY: May: 11: Perth. 13: Adelaide. 15: Adelaide 17: Hobart. 19: Melbourne. 21: Brisbane.

Claymores sack coach

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: The Scottish Claymores have dismissed Lary Kuharich, their head coach, five days before they start their World League of American Football season against Rhein Fire at Murrayfield. Kuharich, who was appointed in November, was replaced by Jim Criner, the Claymores' offensive line coach, after consultations with the players and other staff.

Franz Stampfl dies

ATHLETICS: Franz Stampfl, who advised Roger Bannister in his preparation to become the first man to run a sub-four minute mile, has died in Melbourne, Australia. He was 81. The Austrian-born coach also guided Chris Chataway to the world 5,000 metres record, Chris Brasher to the Olympic steeplechase gold medal and Brian Hewson to the 1958 European 1,500 metres title. Obituary, page 17

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ADORABLE, attractive woman 35, slim, shapely, stylish, well-cnt brunette with the world at her feet seeks similar man, 30-40, tall, dark, handsome, successful, loving to be her lover and soulmate. C. London. Photo please Box No 4847

ATTRACTIVE witty warm woman, living in London, seeks similar unattached male professional, 35+ Box No 6210

UNATTACHED mature feminine cultured classy confident light-hearted romantic n/s lady WLTM genuine nice guy /boyfriend 60+. Home counties. Reply to Box No 4976

42yrs, very attractive American professional woman 5'8", divorced with no children, looking for successful, passionate n/s man under 50 to share the joys of life. London area. Please Reply to Box No 6259

GENTLEMEN

AMERICAN Canadian lady or lady that has travelled and or likes America and Canada sought by tall successful Mediterranean looking 32yo gentleman for friendship - romance or marriage. Children welcome. Relocation possible for the right person. Pack your suitcase for a holiday in the U.S.A.!!! Age & area immaterial. Photo please. Reply to Box No 5101

ARE you Thai or Oriental? Beautiful, slim, marriage minded and looking for Mr Right. I am a 36yr old professional with own home, considered good-looking, slim, GSOH, caring, loyal and romantic, could I be the one? Photo if possible. Please Reply to Box No 5079

ARE you the successor of Wanda von Dunajew? I am Severin's double ! WLTM your London based Box No 4647

ATTRACTIVE 44 6ft n/s Co. Dir. Mad based with varied interests WLTM a genuine slim affectionate attractive lady 34-44 for love and romance. Letter and photo please.Box No 5112

DOCTOR divorced in his 50's but full of energy, outgoing, passionate, n/s seeks young lady companion. Please reply with telephone no to Box No 6221

DUBLIN man footloose 40 and fed up. Looking for intelligent beautiful woman for mutual intellectual and other stimulation. You must be witty, open-minded and adventurous - I am! A.L.A that applies! a photo Reply to Box No 5081

ENGLISH gentleman, 46, 5'10". Oxbridge, ex-academic, journalist, diplomat: a bit eccentric but presentable; WLTM lady 30-39, sincerity and gentleness prized above all else. Possibly wanting a fam ily. Reply to Box No 5084

FALSE Start has left very kind and nice, tall, quite sexy and ultra intelligent rich and successful young man (33) with hair a child to love and be loved by, but no woman. Not to be discouraged WLTM intelligent, kind, sexy, child loving woman to fall in love with. Please Reply to Box No 5068

FUN, romance, care and support forever. It's a beautiful thought. It does and can happen. Slim, attractive, intelligent and charismatic lady 30/40s sought by attentive 6' male connoisseur and his much shorter dog. Photo app.Box No 5097 Berks

MIDLANDS, intelligent, good looking, great fun, 33, 6ft 2in, own business, seeks very attractive stylish, 22-30 lady for TLC & romance. Photo if poss Please Reply to Box No 5094

MOUNTAINS, Mozart and Monet. Are you interested? If you are adventurous, cultured, sporty and in your 30's and want to lead an interesting life with the right man I'd like to meet you. I am 44, professional, single, fit, said to be attractive and live in the Midlands. Reply with photograph to Box 5006

NORTH-WEST. Are there no single attractive females in the North? Male, early 40's, 6' and in good shape, I am successful, considered attractive, secure with a professional career - in fact with everything except the girl! Recently divorced and a bit old for discos. Seeks classy female aged 30-40; must be intelligent and attractive, I believe looks are important. Photo app plse.Box No 5065

GENTLEMEN

OPTIMISTIC professional male 31 seeks confident woman for cuddles and TLC. Cambridge /South East. Box No 5207

TALL handsome white professional, loyal, considerate, GSOH seeks small shapely beauty black or white, 28-38 for romance, marriage, children. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 5062

WORLD CUP RUGBY South Africa the last 2wks. Lady n/s wishing to join 55yo unattached man. Write with photo about yourself to Box No 6011

YOUNG 40ish solvent professionally qualified opthalmic optician with own practice. Likes dining out, TV, movies, the odd holiday, and messing about. Loves fast cars, but would like "not a loose woman" between the ages of 30-37. My aim is to make your dreams come true. If you are pretty and sincere and a one man woman, then write to me enclosing a photograph and tel. no.Wales/Wares.Box No 5072

MIDWEEK RENDEZVOUS

ABUNDANCE OF STUNNING LADIES
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Candleberries!
has some super chaps already but you get swapped up very quickly so we always need more. Personal introductions and Enchanted Evenings for attractive, professional people.
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Fax 0171 782 7827

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The annual match between The Lords and The Commons for The Guardian Challenge Trophy was held at the Portland Club last week. The Commons won by 3,790 aggregate points. The Lords now lead the series 11-10. The cup for the best-played hand was awarded to Lord Brougham and Vaux, a descendant of the Lord Brougham who introduced the game of bridge to England in 1894, via the Portland Club.

Dealer North — Love all

	♠AKJ642 ♥— ♦K9 ♣K10832	
♠Q105 ♥A10932 ♦Q103 ♣J4	N W E S	♠98 ♥QJ85 ♦AJ8765 ♣7
	♠73 ♥K874 ♦42 ♣AQ965	

W	N	E	S
—	1♠	Pass	2♣
Pass	4♣	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

Contract: Six Clubs by South. Lead: Five of spades

In effect, North bid Six Clubs over Two Clubs, a reasonable speculation. On this type of bidding, an agressive lead is called for: if West leads a diamond, the defence take the first two tricks. Also possible is the ace of hearts, the lead found at another table. Here, that gives the declarer an easy ride.

One other declarer received a passive lead against Six Clubs. Thinking that he needed the ace of diamonds onside, he led a diamond to the king after drawing trumps, and so went down. Lord Brougham won the spade with the ace and drew two rounds of trumps. Next, he played a second spade to the king and ruffed a spade. When the suit divided, that gave him five tricks in spades, five in clubs and three heart ruffs: the position of the ace of diamonds was irrelevant.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Champion retires

Maia Chiburdanidze, the women's world champion from 1978 until 1991, has retired from chess to become a nun in the mountains of Georgia, her home country. She said: "For me, God is now both my inner and my outer life." Last month, she was eliminated in the final of the women's world championship qualifying competition in St Petersburg by Zsuzsa Polgar, of Hungary. Chiburdanidze has donated her loser's purse of $35,000 to charitable purposes.

Baker ahead

In the St Peters de Beauvoir tournament, now being held in London, Chris Baker has moved into the sole lead with four wins in four games. The following was the best game of the fourth round.

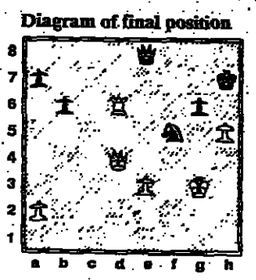
White: Holland
Black: Olesen
St Peters de Beauvoir tournament, London, April 1995

English Opening

1	c4	g6
2	Nc3	Bg7
3	g3	e5
4	Bg2	Nc6
5	Rb1	Nf6
6	b4	0-0
7	e3	Ne7
8	Nf3	d6
9	0-0	Bg4
10	h3	Be6
11	Qe2	Qc8
12	Kh2	Nh5
13	b5	f5
14	Ng5	Bd7
15	Nd5	Qd8
16	Bb2	Kh8
17	f4	h6
18	Nf3	Nxd5
19	cxd5	Qe8
20	fxe5	Bxb5
21	d3	dxe5
22	g4	Bxd3
23	Qxd3	e4
24	Bxg7+	Nxg7
25	Qd4	exd3
26	Rd3	fxg4
27	hxg4	Rxf3
28	Bxf3	Qf8
29	Kg2	b6
30	Be4	Qe7
31	d6	Qd8
32	Bxa8	Qxa8+
33	Kg3	cxd6
34	Rf1	Qe8
35	Rf6	Kh7
36	Rxd6	h5
37	gxh5	Nf5+

White resigns

Diagram of final position



WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

SICHERHEITSDIENST
a. Idealistic philosophy
b. Glacier shale
c. The Gestapo

SPLIFF
a. A card-sharp
b. A turn in skiing
c. An exotic cigarette

THELEMIC
a. A placebo
b. Free-for-all
b. Th[illegible]eping grape tomato

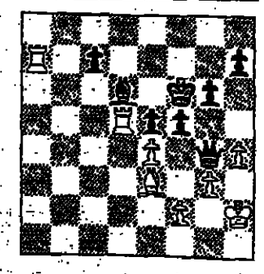
UPSILON
a. A particle
b. An inverted pyramid
c. An Icelandic greeting

Answers: page 38

CHESS

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Quinteros – Tukmakov, Leningrad 1973. How did White now obtain a decisive material advantage?



Solution: page 38

Master Oats frustrated by fog

By Julian Muscat

MASTER OATS is not having the best of the weather. If public confidence behind the Gold Cup winner has evaporated with the drying ground, it was thick fog that kept the horse idle at Kim Bailey's stables yesterday.

To complete his Grand National preparation, Master Oats was to have schooled over a replica of an Aintree fence. But that exercise was postponed for 24 hours when the trainer awoke to find visibility around Lambourn at a premium.

"It's not a problem," was the simple verdict from Bailey, who remains remarkably relaxed under what are now becoming unfavourable circumstances.

As the racing surface at Aintree shed further moisture yesterday, punters maintained their support for horses proven on a sound surface. Ladbrokes, who trimmed Young Hustler to 7-1 from a point longer, reported no significant interest for Master Oats, who disputes favouritism with Minnehoma at 6-1.

However, Bailey does not believe the ground is against him. "I know there's nothing I can do about it, but if you asked me beforehand what I'd like on the day I'd have told you good ground," he said.

"Four and a half miles [the distance of the National] is a long way. Master Oats will have plenty of time to get into the race. After a season of heavy ground it is now turning the other way. But I'm happy with that, just as long as it's not fast. It's still very much on the cards that the horse will run."

Bailey will walk the course before the three-day meeting opens tomorrow. "Even then, it won't really matter what we find because we won't make a final decision until Saturday morning in case it rains on Friday night."

Grand National fortune smiled on Patricia Thompson three years ago, when Party Politics, her eve-of-race purchase, completed a memorable victory. But this year's attempt to repeat the trick appears to have foundered. Her recent purchase, Commercial Artist, is now a doubtful runner after contracting a bout of colic. A firm decision about the Victor Bowens-trained 25-1 chance will be made this morning.

The National mount on General Pershing offered Tony Dobbin a good opportunity to cap a memorable first season as stable jockey to Gordon Richards. But the Irish-born jockey was yesterday ruled out of the race after he sustained damage to his vertebrae in a heavy fall at Kelso on Monday. Jason Titley is to have his first taste of the Grand National aboard the Jenny Pitman-trained Royal Athlete.

Barry Hills, the Lambourn trainer, will break new ground during the Flat season when he establishes a satellite yard in Germany. Hills has secured a six-month lease on ten boxes at the newly refurbished Krefeld racecourse, near Düsseldorf. "It is something I've had in mind for some time," the trainer said. "I can run my horses two or three times before bringing them home. There is also easy access to Italy and France."

Matthew McCloy, the solicitor who forms part of the Aga Khan's legal team, is to succeed Sir Nevil Macready as chairman of the British Horseracing Board's Industry Committee. McCloy prevailed, by ballot, at the expense of Rhydian Morgan-Jones, chairman of the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association.



Jenny Pitman's Royal Athlete will be Jason Titley's first ride in the Grand National. Photograph: Ed Byrne

Nahar can turn tables

ASCOT
BBC1

2.30: The firm ground, which scared off many of the original entries, makes this a tricky card for punters after a winter of soft going. Does Dilemma has shown little over fences so far, although he could improve as his best hurdle form was on faster ground. Irish Stamp's second to Talbot last time reads well but Ferdie Murphy's chaser may be found out by these stiffer fences.

Ascot Lad almost won at Sandown last month after returning from a near two-year lay-off. Horses sometimes flop on their second race after a long absence, but it could be worth risking Ben de Haan's novice, whose best hurdle form was on a sound surface.



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

3.05: Plenty of pace looks guaranteed here. Act Of Parliament will be fit enough despite an absence of 128 days and won on good to firm ground over hurdles. Kim Bailey's chaser made all the running when winning a decent race at Liverpool in the Autumn. Postage Stamp is another who likes to make the running and goes well on fast ground. Ferdie Murphy's novice won a weak race at Newbury last time. The tactics of the race could play into the hands of **Red Bean**, who is fast improving and should appreciate today's step-up in distance.

3.35: This is a dreadful race considering the amount of prize-money at stake. Nawar showed little on his belated seasonal reappearance seven weeks ago, prefers soft ground and is untrustworthy. Al Asoof has shown no form this season. Sand-Dollar, who is having his first race this campaign, beat **Nahar** by a length and a half at Cheltenham in December 1993, but reopposes on 10lb worse terms so the latter, who ran respectably at Newbury 12 days ago, should turn the tables.

Richard Evans

RIPON

THUNDERER

2.25 Don't Forget Mikie. 2.55 Merry Mermaid. 3.30 Palacegate Touch. 4.00 Torrential. 4.30 Contrafire. 5.00 Chaldon Herring. 5.30 Anastina.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4.00 TORRENTIAL (nap). 4.30 Contrafire. 5.00 Toy Princess.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES) SIS
DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

2.25 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND SPA WELTER MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £4,241: 5f) (16 runners)

101	(4)		ABDUCTION E Weymes 9-0	G Hind	–
102	(15)		CAPO BAY P Haslam 9-0	J Weaver	–
103	(2)	3	*DON'T FORGET MIKIE 13 M H-Ellis 9-0 Stephen Davies*		–
104	(1)		EURO EXPRESS M H Easterby 9-0	M Birch	–
105	(14)		GORETSKI N Tinkler 9-0	K Darley	–
106	(8)		LUCKY BEA M W Easterby 9-0	L Charnock	–
107	(3)		MALLIA T Barron 9-0	J Fortune	–
108	(13)		MARTARA M Channon 9-0	R Hughes	–
109	(12)		ORIOLE N Tinkler 9-0	Kim Tinkler	–
110	(10)		PLAYMAKER J Berry 9-0	J Carroll	–
111	(16)	4	PLEASURE TIME 13 C Smith 9-0	W Woods	–
112	(5)	0	RAMSEY HOPE 13 C Fairhurst 9-0	N Kennedy	–
113	(9)		SHARP MOMTY R Hollinshead 9-0	L Dettori	–
114	(7)		HOBBS CHOICE Mrs J Cook 8-9	S Webster	–
115	(11)		MARGI BOO G Moore 8-9	J Fanning	–
116	(6)	0	WHITTLE ROCK 13 E Alston 8-9	K Fallon	–

4-1 Playmaker, 5-1 Don't Forget Mikie, 6-1 Pleasure Time, 7-1 Goretski, 8-1 Oriole, Martara, 10-1 Euro Express, 12-1 others.

2.55 MARKINGTON SELLING HANDICAP (£2,905: 1m 4f 60yd) (17)

201	(3)	000-	ALJADEER 155 (F,6) M W Easterby 6-10-0	Ruth Coulter (7)	–
202	(6)	00-0	NOEPROB 9 (F,8,5) R Hodges 5-9-2	S Drowne (5)	89
203	(17)	050-	NUVEEN 5J Mrs J Jordan 4-9-0	A Culhane	88
204	(15)	5-56	DAWN ROCK 5 (5) R McMillan 4-8-13	T Williams	87
205	(1)	000-	DEMURRER 174 Mrs A Naughton 5-8-13	J Weaver	–
206	(14)	1231	BOROCAY 6 (D,B,5) M Camacho 7-8-11 (5ex)	L Charnock	94
207	(10)	-660	PERSIAN BUD 62 (CD,G) J Bosley 7-8-10	C Rutter	93
208	(7)	4003	TURFMANS VISION 16 (5) R Hollinshead 5-8-7	W Ryan	91
209	(5)	503-	MERRY MERMAID 36J (D,5) J Bottomley 5-8-5	K Fallon	93
210	(4)	0/0	REJECTS REPLY 68 W Musson 5-8-2	P McCabe (5)	–
211	(9)	04-0	DOCTOR ROY 6 (F,G) N Byrcott 7-8-2	F Norton	82
212	(11)	2-15	ARIAN SPIRIT 48 (BF,5) J Eyre 4-8-0	J Fanning	95
213	(12)	034-	MAC RAMBLER 21J N Byrcott 8-8-0	S Maloney	90
214	(2)	/00-	SKOLERN 62J (V,F,5) A Harrison 11-7-7	N Carlisle	–
215	(13)	000-	DON'T CRY 153 D E Ingram 7-7-7	Kim Tinkler	88
216	(8)	0-40	TRAIL OF TEARS 75 (5) W Haigh 5-7-7	Dale Gibson	97
217	(16)	-500	VENTURE FOURTH 54 E Alston 6-7-7	D Wright (3)	69

3-1 Borocay, 5-1 Turfmans Vision, 6-1 Aran Spirit, 7-1 Merry Mermaid, 8-1 Mac Rambler, 10-1 Dawn Rock, Doctor Roy, 12-1 others.

3.30 FOUNTAINS HANDICAP (£5,888: 6f) (23)

301	(13)	000-	PETE AFRIQUE 165 (D,F,5) M W Easterby 4-10-0	M Birch	87
302	(20)	402-	PALACESATE TOUCH 155 (V,CD,G,5) J Berry 5-9-10	J Carroll	89
303	(11)	020-	JUST BOB 153 (D,F,G,5) S Ratcliffe 6-9-5	J Stack (5)	90
304	(14)	06-1	CASTLEREA LAD 12 (D,F,G) R Hollinshead 6-9-4	W Ryan	96
305	(2)	023-	TISHUSICK 158 (F) J Fanshawe 4-9-4	D Harrison	85
306	(19)	000-	TRUTHFUL IMAGE 292 (B,D,F,G) R Hodges 5-9-1	L Dettori	–
307	(9)	315-	WHITTLE WOODS GIRL 200 (CD,F,G,5) E Alston 4-9-1	J Quinn	87
308	(8)	10-1	*SADDLEHOME 28 (D,F,G,5)* T Barron 6-8-13	J Fortune	82
309	(3)	01-2	SAILDRIANTE 12 (D,G) S Bowring 4-8-13	S Webster	90
310	(15)	6104	DESERT INVADER 16 (B,D,G,5) D Chapman 4-8-10	Dean McKeown	98
311	(21)	000-	SAMSOLOM 232 (D,F,G) P Howling 7-8-9	K Darley	–
312	(4)	00-0	*ELLE SHAPED 12 (F,G) D Nicholls 3-8-9*	*N Connorton*	91
313	(12)	00-0	BRAILLE 12 (D,G,5) M Meagher 4-8-8	J Weaver	91
314	(22)	020-	MAID O'CANNE 174 (B,D,F) M W Easterby 4-8-8	L Charnock	87
315	(18)	2210	BELLA PARKES 12 (D,G,5) D Nicholls 4-8-6	Alex Greaves	95
316	(11)	30-0	CAPTAIN CARAT 12 (D,F) Mrs J Ramsden 4-8-3	K Fallon	96
317	(10)	060-	COLWAY RAKE 167 (B,D,G,5) J Watts 4-8-1	G Duffield	84
318	(6)	0-45	PLUM FIRST 12 (D,F,5) L Lloyd-James 5-7-11	N Kennedy	90
319	(7)	130-	UMJARRIK 155 (V,D,F,G) S Oldroyd 7-7-10	J Lowe	88
320	(23)	400-	RAMKAIDADE 145 (S) D E Ingram 4-7-10	Kim Tinkler	84
321	(5)	2550	TEE TEE TOO 11 (D,G) P Haslam 3-7-9	Dale Gibson	87
322	(17)	04-2	THE OLD CHAPEL 26 (B,CD,5) B McMahon 6-7-9	F Norton	89
323	(16)	1100	PINE RIDGE LAD 5 (CD,F,G) J Eyre 5-7-7	J Fanning	90

6-1 Castlerea Lad, 7-1 Palacegate Touch, 8-1 Saddlehome, Sailormane, 9-1 Tisheusick, 10-1 Plum First, 12-1 Whittle Woods Girl, 14-1 others.

4.00 GALPHAY CONDITIONS STAKES (3-Y-O: £4,832: 1m 1f) (7)

401	(5)	215-	CAPTAIN'S DAY 179 (F,G) T Mitt 9-4	J Weaver	91
402	(6)	12-	DANCE BAND 214 (6) B Hanbury 9-2	W R Swinburn	93
403	(4)	1-	GREY SHOT 166 (G) I Balding 9-2	R Cochrane	86
404	(3)	5-12	HEATHYARDS ROCK 11 (G) R Hollinshead 9-2	T Ives	69
405	(1)	13-	LANCER 249 (F) M Bell 9-2	M Fenton	94
406	(2)	435-	MANFUL 167 (F) J Hetherton 9-2	N Kennedy	96
407	(7)	1	TORRENTIAL 12 (F) J Gosden 9-2	L Dettori	95

7-4 Torrential, 4-1 Heathyards Rock, 5-1 Grey Shot, 6-1 Dance Band, 7-1 Lancer, 8-1 Captain's Day, 12-1 Manful.

4.30 STUDLEY ROYAL HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,017: 1m 4f 60yd) (7)

501	(5)	403-	EXECUTIVE DESIGN 203 Mrs M Reveley 9-7	K Darley	93
502	(7)	01-0	ELPIDOS 13 (B,G) C Brittain 9-6	M Rimmer	92
503	(1)	00-0	MAYSANN 9 J Dunlop 9-2	W Carson	92
504	(6)	1312	CONTRARRE 13 (G) W Jarvis 9-1	M Tebbutt	89
505	(3)	-023	*BEAU MATELOT 33 J Reshell 8-13*	J Weaver	87
506	(2)	000-	SEDVICTA 167 Mrs M Reveley 8-8	J Fortune	91
507	(4)	060-	CONEYGREE 295 J Wharton 7-7	J Quinn	–

5-4 Contrafire, 4-1 Elpidos, 5-1 Maysann, Executive Design, 7-1 Beau Matelot, 14-1 Sedvicta, 33-1 Coneygree.

5.00 SAWLEY HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,203: 1m 2f) (15)

601	(4)	1214	NIGEL'S LAD 46 (D,BF,G) P Haslam 9-7	M Tebbutt	98
602	(14)	000-	SILENTLY 189 I Balding 9-7	L Dettori	97
603	(7)	006-	LABIBEH 204 J Dunlop 9-7	W Carson	89
604	(5)	0-23	TOY PRINCESS 11 (BF) C Brittain 9-6	M Rimmer	94
605	(12)	-123	*MR FROSTY 11 (G) W Jarvis 9-4*	J Weaver	97
606	(13)	60-0	FLYAWAY BLUES 11 Mrs M Reveley 9-2	K Darley	89
607	(1)	610-	GRATE BRITISH 155 (S) E Weymes 9-2	G Hind	96
608	(6)	5400	CHALDON HERRING 13 (G) T Barron 9-0	J Fortune	69
609	(3)	650-	GREEN LAND 158 S Williams 8-13	D Wright (3)	93
610	(10)	0210	OUR TOM 18 (G) J Wharton 8-9	J Quinn	97
611	(9)	600-	HONG KONG DESIGNER 152 S Norton 8-6	J Tate (3)	95
612	(15)	000-	TESSAIDE 203 M Camacho 8-5	L Charnock	–
613	(8)	016-	ON A PEDESTAL 200 (F) Mrs J Ramsden 8-3	K Fallon	93
614	(11)	1106	POLY ROAD 9 (G) M Channon 8-1	P P Murphy (5)	96
615	(9)	583-	EURO SCEPTIC 203 (B) M H Easterby 7-9	J Fanning	96

9-2 Toy Princess, 5-1 Mr Frosty, 6-1 On A Pedestal, 7-1 Chaldon Herring, 8-1 Silently, Nigel's Lad, 10-1 Flyaway Blues, Labibeh, 12-1 others.

5.30 GRANTLEY MAIDEN STAKES (£4,057: 1m) (18)

1	(7)		BROTHER BARNABAS 30J C Thornton 4-10-0	Dean McKeown	–
2	(9)	0-	CRUCIS 327 B McMahon 4-10-0	M Wigham	–
3	(16)		NEVER 30 RT (B) R Bastiman 4-10-0	H Bastiman (5)	–
4	(14)		OPERATIC DANCER R McKellar 4-10-0	T Williams	–
5	(11)	000-	SAFEY ANA 172 B Hanbury 4-10-0	W Ryan	87
6	(4)	64-	TREGARON 168 P Calver 4-10-0	M Birch	84
7	(13)	65-	ZARALASKA 228 L Cumani 4-10-0	C Hodgson (3)	82
8	(17)	00/	SAMSONESQUE 530 J Fanshawe 4-9-9	D Harrison	–
9	(1)	323-	BERNARD SEVER 328 S Woods 3-8-12	W Woods	69
10	(12)		CROSS TALK R Hollinshead 3-8-12	T Ives	–
11	(6)	00-	KAF 219 J Dunlop 3-8-12	G Duffield	80
12	(15)		LUCKY DI L Cumani 3-8-12	J Weaver	–
13	(10)	0	MR PERSONALITY 12 Mrs M Reveley 3-8-12	K Darley	74
14	(18)		*AMANAH J Gosden 3-8-7*	W Carson	–
15	(2)		ANASTINA J Gosden 3-8-7	L Dettori	–
16	(8)	0	BOLLIN SOPHIE 11 M H Easterby 3-8-7	S Maloney	–
17	(3)	6-	FINAL FLING 166 J Watts 3-8-7	B Thomson	–
18	(5)		HUTCHES LADY R McKellar 3-8-7	N Kinnon (7)	–

11-4 Lucky Di, 7-2 Anastina, 5-1 Amanah, 7-1 Zaralaska, Bernard Sever, 10-1 Safey Ana, Tregaron, 12-1 others.

5.50 CHASE MEREDITH MEMORIAL TROPHY (Hunters chase: amateurs: £1,954: 3m) (9)

1	54-1	KNOCKUMSHIN 14 (CD,F,G,5) S Smith 12-12-5	T Byrne (5)	
2	2212	WILD ILLUSION 8 (CD,F,G,5) Miss J Pidgeon 11-12-5	J Trice-Rolph (7)	
3	2-2U	DUBIT 14 (S) R Wakeham 10-12-0	Miss S Vickery (7)	
4	2233	DADDY OWEN 17P (F,G) Miss F Stone 12-12-0	R Johnson (7)	
5	PPR-	MISTER JOE 46P F Mathews 8-12-0	L Brown (7)	
6	-PU0	MISTY 15 A Chamberlain 8-12-0	M Rimell (5)	
7	4211	SEARCY 18P (F,G,5) T Long 7-12-0	Miss L Blackford (7)	
8	2122	SORREL HILL 14 (G,5) Mrs R Vickers 8-12-0	Richard White (7)	
9	3211	*FINAL PRIDE 11P (BF,F,G,5) P Bowen 9-11-9*	*E Williams (7)*	

11-10 Wild Illusion, 3-1 Knockumshin, 7-2 Final Pride, 8-1 others.

4.20 SARA HAMILTON-RUSSELL MEMORIAL TROPHY (Handicap hurdle: £3,022: 2m 5f 110yd) (9)

1	2205	POWLEYVALE 56 (G,5) D Sherwood 8-11-10	J Osborne	
2	4-2P	ISABEAU 26 (F,G,5) K Morgan 8-11-5	A S Smith	
3	1105	STAR MARKET 41 (C,G,5) N T-Davies 5-10-13	Mr M Rimell (5)	
4	2624	JUST ROSE 14 (F,G) A Jones 6-10-9	M A Fitzgerald	
5	-605	JEFFERBY 21 (V,G) J Glover 8-10-5	A Maguire	
6	1P03	*PRECIOUS JUNO 11 (CD,F,5) C C-Jones 6-10-5*	*D Gallagher*	
7	-545	REVE EN ROSE 23 (F,G) M McMahon 9-10-1	W Marston	
8	P380	FIRST CRACK 11 (F,G,5) F Jordan 10-10-0	J Lodder	
9	4009	IT'S DELICIOUS 97 Mrs T Pillington 9-10-0	G Hogan (5)	

3-1 Star Market, 9-2 Just Rose, Powleyvale, 5-1 Precious Juno, 6-1 Isabeau, 8-1 Jefferby, 12-1 Reve En Rose, 14-1 others.

5.55 BUTTERCROSS NOVICES CHASE (£4,762: 2m) (8)

1	2UFP	ALDINGTON CHAPPLE 14 (F,G) B Preece 7-11-3	T Wall	
2	/04	*BELL GLASS 18 (S) D Davies 9-11-3*	*Mr J Jukes (7)*	
3	-F6P	CELTIC LAIRD 85 Mrs J Pitman 7-11-3	W Marston	
4	6304	KATIE'S JOKER 11 O O'Neill 9-11-3	A Maguire	
5	2P56	MASTER'S CROWN 14 (F,G) M Chapman 7-11-3	W Worthington	
6	P556	NADIAD 23 (V,F,G) D McCain 9-11-3	D McCain	
7	0PFP	PRIORY PIPER 48 J Pickering 8-11-3	A Thornton	
8	0-05	SHADOWLAND 6 Graham Richards 7-11-3	M Sharratt	

2-1 Kate's Joker, 3-1 Bell Glass, Nadiad, 6-1 Master's Crown, 10-1 others.

5.25 BURWARTON CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,276: 2m 5f 110yd) (16)

1	1260	MAJOR YAASI 22 (S) J Glover 5-12-0	T Beckon (7)	
2	211-	CROOKED COUNSEL 310 (F,G) G Fierro 9-11-13	S Lycett (7)	
3	1033	MULLED ALE 146 (G) S Sherwood 5-10-12	P Moore (7)	
4	0-5F	SAMS QUEEN 41 J Upson 6-10-3	C Davies (7)	
5	600	*SOVEREIGN SPRAY 109 J Curtis 5-10-1*	*E Callaghan (3)*	
6	650P	MOIST BEAUTIFUL 51 K Bridgwater 4-10-0	R Massey (3)	
7	-000	TIGH-NA-MARA 75 D Garraton 7-10-0	E Husband (3)	
8	5433	CHARLAFRIVOLA 190 (BF) T Greathead 7-10-0	Philip Hughes (7)	
9	0600	STERLING BUCK 16 G Yardley 6-10-0	F Leahy	
10	6404	FIRST BEE 11 F Jordan 4-10-0	A Lamach	
11	604P	QUEENS CONTRACTOR 105 S Mellor 5-10-0	A Procter	
12	-P00	MONKS JAY 11 G Thorner 6-10-0	Guy Lewis	
13	P004	FRA'S GIRL 18 Lady Susan Brooke 7-10-0	J James (7)	
14	6000	QUICK DECISION 18 (B) J Cresswell 4-10-0	T Eley	
15	0P-P	DEVIL'S STING 18 P Hobbs 6-10-0	G Tormey (3)	
16	P0F-	POP FESTIVAL 330 P Dalton 6-10-0	G Hogan (3)	

7-2 Mulled Ale, 9-2 Major Yaasi, 5-1 Charlafrivola, 6-1 Crooked Counsel, 8-1 Monks Jay, Fra's Girl, 10-1 First Bee, 12-1 others.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Nottingham

Going: good, good to firm in places

2.30 (1m 1f 213yd) 1, Boldly So (J Quinn, 7-1). 2, Slapy Dam (4-1 lav), 3, Don't Forget Ruby (20-1). 4, Griffin's Girl (33-1). 19 ran. 1¼l, 4l. W Musson. Tote: £6.40: £2.90, £1.10, £4.40. £28.80. DF: £55.60. Trio: £105.80. CSF: £35.55. Tricast: £510.13.

3.00 (5l 13yd) 1, Karina Heights (J Reid, 10-1); 2, La Suquet (6-1); 3, Nottash (11-4 fav). 17 ran. ¾l, 2½l. J Wade. Tote: £19.60; £3.80, £3.60, £1.50. DF: £52.40. Trio: £131.00. CSF: £78.10.

3.30 (5l 13yd) 1, Dungeon Master (R Hughes, 5-1); 2, Dance Of The Moon (2-1 fav), 3, Thai Morning (7-2). 9 ran. 1½l, 1½l. M Channon. Tote: £6.10, £2.50, £1.40, £1.10. DF: £12.20. Trio: £11.10. CSF: £15.91.

4.00 (6l 15yd) 1, Denbrae (J Weaver, 7-1); 2, Portelet (12-1); 3, Media Express (12-1), 4, Tafahhus (12-1). Tharwa 6-1 fav, 19 ran. Nk, nk. D Murray Smith. Tote: £10.90, £2.40, £3.20, £2.10. £2.90. DF: £31.50. Trio: £557.80. CSF: £32.89. Tricast: £951.36.

4.30 (1m 6f 15yd) 1, Doddington Flyer (T Ives, 11-4 fav), 2, Le Corniche (9-2), 3, Americus (7-1). 7 ran. NR: Nivasha, 14l, 14l. R Hollinshead. Tote: £3.30, £2.40, £1.80. DF: £7.20. CSF: £13.16. Tricast: £52.59.

5.00 (1m 54yd) 1, Mutem Up Hunnam, 9-2 fjl-fav); 2, Captain Marmalade (10-1); 3, Last Laugh (14-1); 4, Chairmans Choice (10-1) Brandonhurst 9-2 fjl-fav. 20 ran. 1¼l, 4l. L Cumani. Tote: £6.90; £2.70, £1.30, £6.30. £7.50. DF: £30.30. Trio: £90.30. CSF: £55.02. Tricast: £579.39.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £44,527.46 carried forward to Ripon today).

Placepot: £111.60. Quadpot: not won (pool of £31.20 carried forward to Ripon today).

Hexham

Going: heavy, soft in places

2.10 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Last Refuge (P Niven, 4-1); 2, Walls Court (7-2 lav), 3, Easter Oats (50-1) 12 ran. Hd, 12l. T Carr. Tote: £2.60, £1.40, £1.20, £13.30. DF: £5.90. Trio: £75.80. CSF: £17.12.

2.40 (3m hdle) 1, Dominion's Dream (A Dobbin, 12-1), 2, Grey Again (3-1), 3, Remontant (16-1) David James' Girl 5-4 fav 6 ran ½l, 3l. B Smart. Tote: £34.10, £3.60, £1.40. DF: £174.90. CSF: £42.66.

3.20 (1m 100yd) 1, Marowins (K Darley, 4-1), 2, Equerry (Evens fav); 3, Kristis Girl (16-1) 7 ran. 4l, 4l. E Alston. Tote: £5.10; £2.80, £1.10. DF: £3.80. CSF: £8.64.

3.50 (1m 4f) 1, Shalayr (W Ryan, 3-1), 2, Broom Isle (5-2 fav), 3, Hill Farm Dancer (20-1) 9 ran. NR: Charlie Bigtime. Sh hd, hd. R Hollinshead. Tote: £5.80, £2.50, £1.10. £3.50. DF: £3.80. Trio: £96.20. CSF: £10.31. Tricast: £110.48.

4.20 (5l 1 Swiss Valley Lady (T Sprake, 6-5 fav); 2, Don't Tell Vicki (7-2); 3, Gi La High (11-4) 4 ran. NR: Mustaffa. 9l, sh hd. W G M Turner. Tote: £2.30. DF: £3.10. CSF: £6.11.

4.50 (6f) 1, Skyperfect (K Darley, 4-1), 2, Sohrabyar (13-2); 3, King Rambo (3-1 jt-fav). Bon Secret 3-1 jt-fav. 12 ran. Nk, 3½l. J Glover. Tote: £3.90; £1.50, £3.60, £1.70. DF: £15.10. Trio: £30.70. CSF: £32.38. Tricast: £86.97.

Placepot: £95.10. Quadpot: £16.40.

BUNKERED FIRST TIME: Ludlow: 2.15 Carnowitz, 3.20 Another Coral. Ripon: 2.55 Train of Tears, 5.30 Never So Fit.

LUDLOW

THUNDERER

2.15 Tir Na Nog. 2.45 Sovereign Niche. 3.20 Panto Prince. 3.50 Wild Illusion. 4.20 Precious Juno. 4.55 Bell Glass. 5.25 Mulled Ale.

Brian Beel: 3.50 Wild Illusion.

GOING: FIRM (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

2.15 MRS MUCK NOVICES HURDLE (£2,626: 2m) (18 runners)

1	2110		SHERWOOD BOY 140 (D,BF,F,G) K Bailey 6-12-2	N Williamson	–
2	1001		TIR NA NOG 105 (B,CD,F,G) Miss L Shelly 6-12-2	G Tormey (5)	–
3	0		ALBARONSKI 34 M McMillan 6-11-4	G McCourt	–
4	0-00		BUNGEE JUMPER 134 T Forster 5-11-4	J Osborne	–
5	/R		CARLOWITZ 6 (B) Mrs J Sidebottom 7-11-4	Mr J Jukes (7)	–
6	-000		COURTOWN BOY 116 (G) D O'Neill 5-11-4	V Slattery	–
7			LAMBRIDGE 157F W Hern 5-11-4	R Farrant	–
8	552P		DIZZIE JONES 20 (CD,F) M Chapman 4-11-4	W Worthington	–
9	00		VANDERVALLY 46 B Wells 6-11-4	J Da Costa	–
10	1		WAR WELL 23 (S) M Pipe 4-11-4	R Dunwoody	–
11	5-P0		*B MY LOVELY 57 D O'Neill 5-10-13*	M A Fitzgerald	–
12	0-06		HYDEMILLA 114 Mrs T Pillington 5-10-13	G Hogan (5)	–
13			SANTANA LADY 72F M Heaton-Ellis 6-10-13	D Gallagher	–
14			*SHAAGMI ANA 280F D Stoddart 4-10-12*	B Powell	–
15	003		MISS THE POST 26 D Nicholson 4-10-7	A Maguire	–
16	0		MUSICAL VENTURE 53 K Morgan 4-10-7	A S Smith	–
17	54P3		NUNKTANA 14 Mrs A Knight 4-10-7	D Matthews (5)	–
18	0		SERAPHIC 14 B Cambidge 4-10-7	Gary Lyons	–

3-1 Miss The Post, 7-2 War Well, 4-1 Sherwood Boy, 6-1 others.

2.45 CAYNHAM SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,206: 2m) (20)

1	2252		SOVEREIGN NICHE 22 (V,D,F,G,5) M Pipe 7-12-8	R Dunwoody	–
2	6043		AUMILLAR 18 (V,D,F,G,5) O Burchell 7-11-6	*D J Burchell*	–
3	P01		FRED'S DELIGHT 15 (B,D,5) M Heaton-Ellis 4-11-0	D Gallagher	–
4	5045		PROJECT'S MATE 51 (D,5) R Brown 8-10-12	Mr R Johnson (7)	–
5	10-0		ABSOLUTLEY FOXED 26 (5) B McMahon 6-10-10	S Robertson (7)	–
6	0010		TOUGH DEAL 11 (S) P Bradley *7-10-6*	*S Wynne (5)*	–
7	0446		SECRET CASTLE 11 (D,F) K Wames 7-10-5	R Farrant	–
8	6030		GOLDEN MADJAMBO 186 F Jordan 6-10-4	J Lodder	–
9	P0P6		BARRNACARRY BAY 18 D Garraton 8-10-3	E Husband (5)	–
10	046		DORNINGTON BOYO 11 K White 5-10-2	T Wall	–
11	400-		ANDRATH 326 D Jones 7-10-1	A Maguire	–
12	0-00		MONTIFFORE AVENUE 165 (D,G) G Fierro 9-10-0	S Lycett (7)	–
13	PPP0		LITTLE ROUSILLON 11 T Greathead 7-10-0	W Humphreys	–
14	3005		CASSIO'S BOY 15 (B) R Ecklev 4-10-0	R Massey (5)	–
15	3-56		QUINTA ROYALE 167 L Snook 8-10-0	A Thornton	–
16	0500		MILLSTOCK 100 A Jones *5-10-0*	*Guy Lewis (5)*	–
17	30U0		FABULOUS PRINCESS 29F C Pogram 4-10-0	M A Fitzgerald	–
18	000		NIGELSCHINAPALACE 4F Miss S Witton 6-10-0	T Eley (3)	–
19	PP60		MA BELLA LUNA S J Moore 6-10-0	W McFarland	–
20	/5F		BETTY BARLOW 22 M Ramsbotlom 9-10-0	Ann Stokell	–

7-2 Sovereign Niche, 5-1 Aumillar, 6-1 Fred's Delight, 7-1 others.

3.20 ATTWOOD MEMORIAL TROPHY (Handicap chase: £3,615: 2m 4f) (9)

1	4633	YOUNG PORKY 14 (F,G) O Sherwood 10-12-0	J Osborne
2	30P5	ANOTHER CORAL 12 (B,D,F,G,5) D Nicholson 12-11-9	A Maguire
3	1P-5	PANTO PRINCE 81 (D,F,G,5) C Popham 14-11-9	B Powell
4	21P1	EASTSHAW 25 (CD,F,G,5) T Forster 13-11-4	G McCourt
5	-55P	KIRO'A SMART 32 (F,G,5) K Morgan 10-10-10	A S Smith
6	-PP4	BRIGGS BUILDERS 23 (B,F,G,5) A Moore 11-10-9	B Clifford
7	6413	ABU MUSLAB 168 (B,BF,F,G) G Edwards 11-10-8	M A Fitzgerald
8	2U10	DARK OAK 20 (D,G,5) J Curtis 9-10-3	L O'Hara
9	P3P2	*L'UOMO PIU 14 (F,G,5) A Barrow 11-10-0*	*DOUBTFUL*

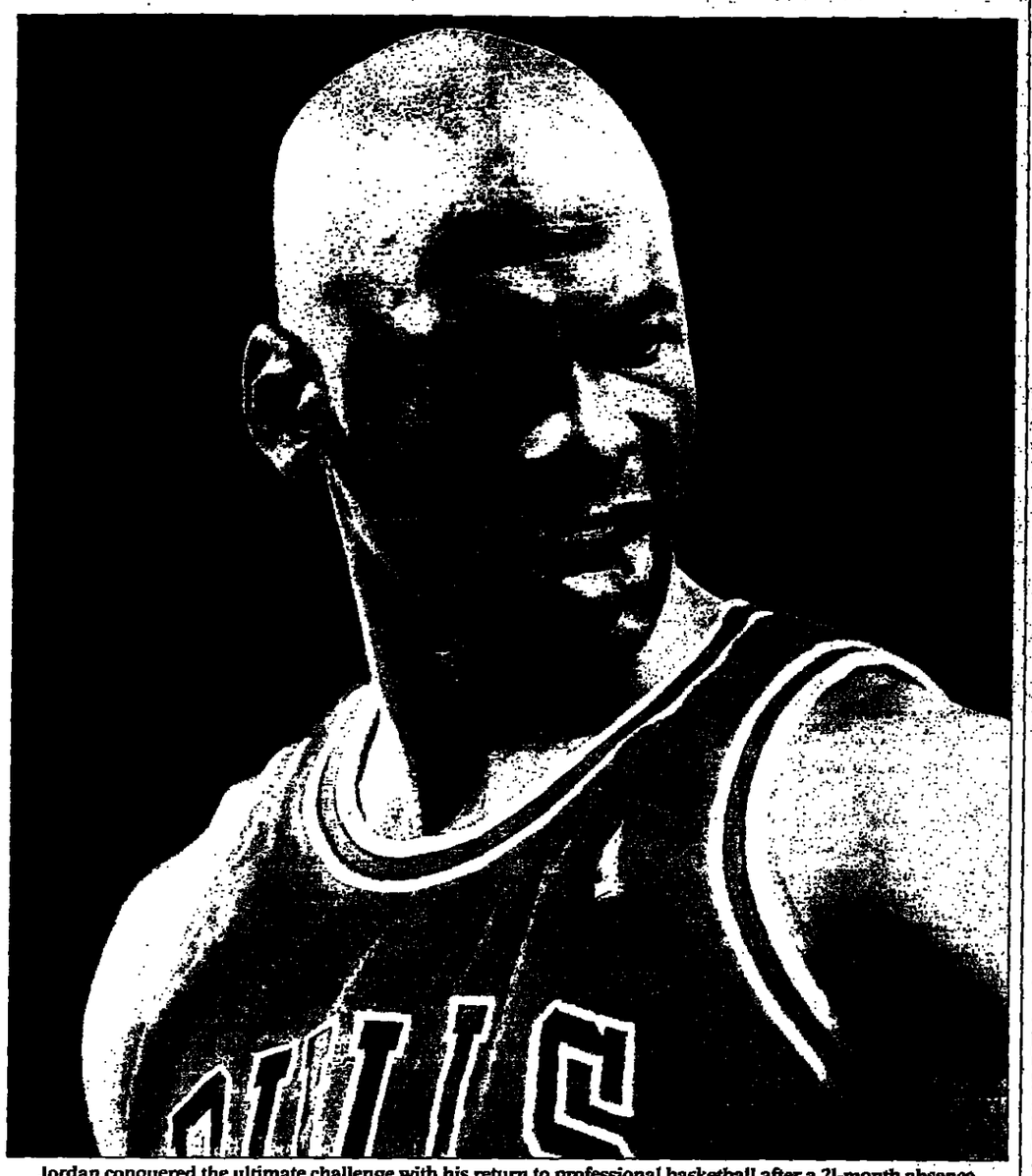
9-4 Eastshaw, 4-1 Another Coral, 5-1 Young Porky, 6-1 Panto Prince, Dark Oak, 10-1 Kind's Smart, 12-1 others.

3.50 CHASE MEREDITH MEMORIAL TROPHY (Hunters chase: amateurs: £1,954: 3m) (9)

1	54-1	KNOCKUMSHIN 14 (CD,F,G,5) S Smith 12-12-5	T Byrne (5)	
2	2212	WILD ILLUSION 8 (CD,F,G,5) Miss J Pidgeon 11-12-5	J Trice-Rol

Sporting ambition destined to go unfulfilled for all but the chosen few

A million dreamers make one champion



Jordan conquered the ultimate challenge with his return to professional basketball after a 21-month absence

MIDWEEK VIEW



SIMON BARNES

Two American vignettes. One. The high school won't release the boy's grades, because his mother, who's on welfare, owes $1,800 in tuition fees. Father been doing drugs, in jail for burglary. Boy needs the grades to continue his education at a different school, in order, he hopes to win a basketball scholarship to college. It's a scene, real life, from the lauded documentary *Hoop Dreams*.

Two. Michael Jordan, now called His Airness. A video, *Come Fly With Me*. Commentary: "Determined to prove his coach wrong. Michael worked even harder, growing four inches..." Oh, the things that can be done in America by hard work and staying true to your dream!

It is possible that Jordan is the greatest player of a team ball-game there has ever been, in any sport. Certainly, there is a scarcely an American alive who would give you an argument.

Pelé? Well, yes, perhaps: but we are talking about the level that is higher than mere excellence. And the tale of Jordan's comeback adds another layer to the myth, to the reality.

The return of Jordan was greeted in terms which were little short of blasphemy: resurrection, second coming. The more Jordan protests that he is a normal chap, the more he is deified.

Jordan took a 21-month sabbatical to play baseball. They never come back: an old law and not quite true. Coming back is just the ultimate challenge. Call it the Muhammad Ali Mohs Test, a Mohs Test being a scale for the hardness of abrasives.

Jordan's first game back was a little slow: he scored seven times from 28 attempts. But a few days later he set an individual record for a visitor to Madison Square Garden, scoring 55 points against the New York Knicks. His team, the Chicago Bulls, inconsistent this season, have started to win: the Jordan Effect. They have been galvanised into the play-offs, the last 16.

Jordan scored 12 points against the Philadelphia 76ers last weekend: less than wonderful. But he led his team for assists, with six. He's back: at least, a piece of him. The comeback saga has riveted America. It makes a nice change from O. J. Simpson.

I remember — will not forget — watching Jordan in the National Basketball Association (NBA) finals in 1993. Criticised heavily after a defeat for "trying too hard" in game three, in game four he scored, yes, 55 points. "He inflicted his will on us," said Paul Westphal, the coach for the opposing Phoenix Suns. "I was amazed. But I was not surprised."

To be an overwhelming man of the match is one thing: Steve MacManaman, Rob Andrew at the weekend. But to take over completely, to bend both team-mates and opposition to your will — that is rare, if not unique.

Which rather invalidates any notion of Jordan as role model. You can't model yourself on a nonpareil. *Hoop Dreams* is powerfully revealing of the aspirational culture of America, and of sport everywhere.

Sport is ruthless, utterly unforgiving. It is also extraordinarily expensive in terms of people: wasteful, profligate. How many aspirants does it take to produce one Jordan? Or even one decent professional, in British football or American basketball? This is not a career, it is the wildest of wild gambles.

How many middle-class English boys are told "Enjoy your cricket. But don't even *think* of making a career of it. Be *smart*: be a lawyer, an accountant".

They don't say that to footballers in darkest London, basketball players in Chicago. And they don't count the number who fail. Picture the great players of any game. They stand, not on the ground, but on a vast pyramid of failure. Players, mostly boys, who reached a certain level, and failed.

Not good enough. Not big enough. Not resilient enough. Not quick enough. Or just unlucky. Perhaps the cruciate ligament went when they played, a little lame, in that big game. Or the family support system broke down. A solid home life is one of the recurring factors in the biographies of champions.

Sport is built upon failure, upon heartbreak. In *Hoop Dreams*, though both the subjects of the documentary avoid it, failure breathes down their necks. We feel the awful fragility of the sporting dream: "Basketball is my ticket out of the ghetto," says one of the boys. True but the ghettoes remain. We can revel in the ability of Jordan, but we cannot believe the saccharin tale of the man who simply followed his dream. It takes a million dreamers to produce a single champion. There is a price for sporting excellence, and it is one that champions do not pay.

Hoop Dreams is showing at MGM cinema, Shaftesbury Avenue, London. *Come Fly With Me* is an NBA video, released by FoxVideo.

Omsk, Tomsk and Hilda

Beyond the Blue Horizon. *Radio 4 FM, 10.00am.*

Not too seriously, not too flippantly, and starting with Russia, Harry Thompson's series examines Britons' perception of other nations between the wars. Inevitably, it is a study of myth-making and stereotyping. All Russians were categorised as melancholics "who just sit around and suffer". Ice, balalaikas, troikas, caviare, Cossaks and Garbo as Ninotchka — these were other images the word "Russia" conjured up. The urge to sound Russian resulted in Hilda Boot, a Nottingham ballet dancer, being reborn as Butsova. Omsk, Tomsk and Vladivostok were not so much place names as a trio of rib-tickling comedians. And all Russian woman spies were automatically dubbed Olga.

Fairest Isle: Cocktails. *Radio 3, 7.00pm.*

It is a rare, Radio 2-like experience when Radio 3 lets its hair down and surrenders itself to sweet nostalgia. *Cocktails* is one of these red-letter days. I suggest you enjoy it while you can; there are only four more helpings to come. Producer John Thornley strings together recordings made between 1920 and 1945 by top British bands. Lots of sax, the occasional solo for giddy violin, percussion restricted to keeping the beat, and pleasing soloists assuring us that life begins at Oxford Circus, and is a one-way street. We almost hear the cherries plopping into the Martinis, and see the gleam from patent-leather shoes skimming across the Savoy dance floor.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Bruno Brookes 8.30 Steve Wright 9.00 Simon Mayo, including the Golden Hour and Confessions 12.00 Lisa I'Anson, including at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat; and at 1.15 The Net 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier, including at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session 8.00 BBs from Last Week's Radio, with Greg Proops 10.00 Mark Radcliffe Midnight Lynn Parsons

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Martin Kelner 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Fiona Armstrong 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2 8.00 Ralph McTell Presents: a concert held to celebrate the 50th birthday of Ashley Hutchings 8.30 On Sussex Hills (2/2) 9.00 Shifting Sands 9.30 Nigel Ogden 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme 8.35 The Magazine, including at 10.35 Euronews; 11.15 Natural History 12.00 Midday with Mair, incl at 12.34pm Moneycheck, with Katie Derham 2.05 Russia on Five 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00 News and sport 7.35 Trevor Brooking's Football Night: Everton v Chelsea, Leeds v Ipswich and Leicester v Norwich 10.05 News Talk 11.00 Night Extra 12.05am After Hours, with Carole Malone 2.05 Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

6.00am Samantha Meah, Sean Bolger 10.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Raeburn 3.00 Tommy Boyd 7.00 Maurice Dee, Carol McGiffen 10.00 Caesar 1.00am Wild Al Kelly

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. 12.00 News 12.05am Music 12.15 Anything Goes 12.45 Sport 1.00 News 1.30 What's News? 1.45 Britain 2.00 News 2.15 On Screen 2.30 Music 3.00 Newsday 3.30 Andy Kershaw 4.00 News 4.15 Sport 4.30 Discovery 5.00 News 5.30 Europe (MW only: Off the Shelf 5.45 Country) 6.00 News 6.30 Omnibus (MW only: Europe) 7.00 News 7.15 World Today 7.30 Megamix 8.00 News 8.15 Fourth Estate 8.30 Discovery 9.00 News (MW only: News in German) 9.10 Words of Faith (MW only: News in German) 9.15 Drama 10.00 News 10.15 Andy Kershaw 10.45 Sport 11.00 News 11.30 BBC English 11.45 Off the Shelf Noon News 12.30pm Meridian 1.00 News (MW only: News in German) 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 Composer of the Month 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 3.30 Megamix 4.00 News 4.05 Sport 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Discovery 5.00 News 5.15 United Nations 5.45 Folk Routes 6.00 News and Business 6.15 From Our Own Correspondent 6.30 The World Today (MW only: News in German) 6.45 Sport (MW only: News in German) 7.00 News 7.30 Music 8.00 News 9.00 Europe Today 9.30 Outlook 9.55 Words of Faith 10.00 News and Business 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 Multitrack X-Press 11.00 News 11.30 World Today 11.45 Telltale Tunes

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Classic Reports 7.00 Gardening Forum (r) 8.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am Mark Griffiths

VIRGIN

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nick Abbot 7.30 Paul Coyte 10.00 Janey Lee Grace 2.00-6.00am Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Acting Cleopatra
6.55 Weather
7.00 On Air: J.C. Bach (Grand Overture in E flat); Canteloube (Bailero, Chants d'Auvergne); Brahms (Intermezzo in C sharp minor); 8.05 Berwald (Efenspiel); Bloch (From Jewish Life); Gemiani (Concerto grosso in D minor)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Haydn in England. Piano Trio in F sharp minor; Original Canzonettas, Despair; She Never Told Her Love; String Quartet in G minor
10.00 Midweek Choice: Beethoven (Triumph March to Christopher Kuffner's *Tarpeja*); Beethoven (Piano Sonata in E); Mozart (Symphony No 5 in B flat); Janáček (Hradcany Songs); 10.55 Adams (Grand Pianola Music); Dvořák (Cantata, American Flag)
12.00 The BBC Orchestras: BBC Philharmonic under Matthias Bamert with Christian Blackshaw, piano, perform the works of Beethoven, Mozart and Sibelius
1.00pm News; Birmingham Lunchtime Concert: Live from Studio 1 (r)
2.00 The BBC Orchestras: BBC Symphony Orchestra under Gunter Wand performs Beethoven (Symphony No 3 in E flat, Eroica) (r)
3.00 Record Review: In *Building a Library*, Stephen Jones compares recordings of Walton's Violin Concerto
4.00 Choral Evensong, live from Lincoln Cathedral
5.00 The Music Machine: Lord Onslow explores indie music
5.15 In Tune, with Nathalie Wheen. Shostakovich (Piano Sonata No 2); August Franchomme (Caprice in E minor); Schnittke (Four Hymns, excerpt); Debussy (Elegie); Schumann (Romanze in B flat minor)
6.00 Rush Hour Concert, live from the Wigmore Hall, London. Marie McLaughlin, soprano, Malcolm Martineau, piano, perform music by Cavalli, Schubert, Wolf, Fauré and Rossini
7.00 Fairest Isle: Cocktails: See Choice
7.30 Pebble Mill: Gioachino Rossini, played by Paul Brooke, hosts an evening of reminiscences and music that might have been heard at one of his Paris soirées. With Della Jones, mezzo, and Malcolm Martineau, piano. At 8.15-8.35 Rossini and Wagner: In 1860 Paris, Rossini and Richard Wagner talk about the world, opera and music
9.30 Stories by Bruno Schulz: Simon McBurney reads *The Night of the Great Season* (r)
9.50 A Beginning and an Ending: Polish National Radio Orchestra under Johannes Widner performs Schumann (Overture, Scherzo and Finale; Overture, Hermann and Dorothea)
10.15 Time and Changes: The pianist and composer Stan Tracey talks about the 1970s
10.45 Night Waves reports on Adrian Noble's production of *Romeo and Juliet*
11.30-12.30am Ensemble: York Piano Trio. Mozart (Piano Trio in E flat); Beethoven (Piano Trio in E flat)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping 6.00 News Briefing, incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Midweek, with birthday guest Gordan Kaye
10.00 News; Beyond the Blue Horizon (FM only): See Choice
10.00 News; Daily Service (LW)
10.15 A Spiritual Anthology (LW only): Out of the Darkness
10.30 Woman's Hour
11.30 Gardeners' Question Time: Visitors to the National Trust's Gibside Estate, Tyne and Wear, put their questions to the experts (r)
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm The Chronicles of Clovis: Clovis at the Carlton. Fifth of a six-part adaptation by Justin Greene of stories by the Edwardian short-story writer Saki 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r)
2.00 News; The Cinderella Service: Samantha Bond stars in the first of a three-part drama series by Julia Stoneham on the life of Land Army girls in 1943 Devon
2.45 Treasure Islands: Chris Powling and Michael Rosen review a selection of new fiction for the over-tens
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope on Television: Quentin Cooper and guests discuss the current state of television in this country
4.45 Short Story: Just Depending, by Jenny Boston
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Ballylenon: First of a six-part comedy drama series by Christopher Fitz-Simon (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Art of Travel: Six travellers reflect on a journey, in conversation with Annette Kobak. Astronauts Susan Helms and Kathy Thornton talk about the ultimate travel experience
7.48 Medicine Now (r)
8.15 Costing the Earth: Mark Whittaker explores the relationship between employment and the environment
8.45 The Return of Sherlock Holmes: The Priory School. The first of five mysteries starring Clive Merrison as Holmes and Michael Williams as Dr Watson (r)
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Mr Ollin, by Ernest Raymond (r)
11.00 The Home Front: Diary extracts reveal a portrait of Britain in the 1940s (r)
11.30 The Crusader Chronicles (FM only): On his deathbed, Walter Knobbe tells the story of the First Great Crusade. With Hugh Grant, Michael Aldridge, Chris Lang and Andy Taylor (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)
12.00-12.43am News, incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast 12.43 As World Service (LW only)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198Khz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.8; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m; LW 198Khz (12.45am-5.55am), CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. TALK RADIO: MW 1089, 1053kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey

Wigan look ahead to another record

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

AGAINST the sacrificial lambs of Doncaster, only the brave or foolhardy would bet against Wigan rewriting another record tonight. They require 32 points to exceed the 941 scored in their runaway rugby league championship win of 1987.

Unless Doncaster have found a sudden cure to the defensive woes that cost them 74 points at Bradford Northern last Sunday, Wigan should make hay at the expense of the bottom club in the champions' inexorable march towards a sixth successive Stones Bitter Championship first division title, even if, as expected, they choose to mix youth with experience in their line-up. Eleven of 157 championship tries — 18 is perhaps pushing it tonight to beat their try record — came at Halifax's expense at the weekend.

As Hull have still to play the top three of Wigan, Leeds and St Helens, the thread by which they dangle above the second division would inevitably be cut by defeat at home tonight. Featherstone will want to bounce back from defeat by Leeds in the Challenge Cup semi-final, in which suspected foul play by Steve Molloy and Joe Naidole has resulted in their referrals to tomorrow's Rugby Football League (RFL) disciplinary committee.

While rugby league remains a winter game, there is no chance of parallel seasons in England and Australia and establishment of a world league, a possible outcome of the schism in the Australian game, which the RFL is anxious about. Yet today, club representatives will discuss for the first time a switch to summer.

Other than better weather and firmer pitches, the pro-summer lobby have advanced few persuasive arguments. Up against a British sporting summer set in tablets of stone, a season from March to October would lack the oxygen of publicity or anything like the television coverage the sport gets at present.

The Australian Rugby League, which is trying to dissuade more than 100 of its players from joining a breakaway league, has urged no change to the English season in order to sustain tours between the countries.

☐ Kelvin Skerrett, the Wigan, Great Britain and Wales prop, may miss the Silk Cut Challenge Cup final against Leeds at Wembley on April 29 if he is found guilty of having deliberately struck an opponent in Sunday's 62-6 hammering of Halifax.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

SEATTLE: NCAA Final: UCLA 99 Arkansas 76

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA)

Eastern Conference

Atlantic division

	W	L	Pct	GB
* Orlando	53	10	.726	—
* New York	47	24	.662	5½
Boston	29	43	.403	24
Miami	28	45	.384	25½
New Jersey	27	45	.375	26
Philadelphia	20	51	.282	32½
Washington	18	53	.254	34½

Central division

* Indiana	46	26	.639	—
* Charlotte	43	28	.606	2½
* Cleveland	39	32	.549	6½
* Chicago	39	33	.542	7
Atlanta	35	37	.486	11
Milwaukee	25	44	.359	18
Detroit	26	45	.366	19½

Western Conference

Midwest division

	W	L	Pct	GB
* San Antonio	52	18	.743	—
* Utah	50	21	.704	2½
Houston	42	29	.592	10½
Denver	35	36	.493	17½
Dallas	31	39	.443	21
Minnesota	20	52	.278	33

Pacific division

* Seattle	51	20	.718	—
* Phoenix	51	21	.708	—
* LA Lakers	45	26	.634	6
Portland	37	34	.521	14
Sacramento	34	37	.479	17
Golden State	22	49	.310	29
LA Clippers	15	58	.205	37

* Play-off place

BOWLS

MELTON MOWBRAY. Indoor national championships: Fours: Final: White-knights bt Ipswich 17-14. Triples: Second round: Tilbury (G Perrett bt Bodmin (S Lane) 17-15, City of Ely (G Harrow) bt Dorrington (P Edwards) 27-14, Stanley (J Leeman) bt Sydenham (P Hughes) 17-14. Cyphers (G Smith) bt North Walsham (J Williams) 19-17, Bancroft Park (S Rice) bt Erdington (T Doig) 16-13, Wey Valley (P Vanwacopoulos) bt Westleycot (T Stevenson) 19-8, Wymondham Dell (I Daines) bt Carterton (M Wickson) 19-8, Erdington Court (S Thomas) bt Barking (N Smith) 20-7. Quarter-finals: Tilbury bt City of Ely 17-11; Stanley bt Cyphers 16-15, Wey Valley bt Banister Park 22-9, Wymondham Dell bt Erdington Court 20-10

CUMBERNAULD: Churchill Insurance women's world indoor championship: Section A: J Wrendley (Scot) bt M Tosh (Ire) 7-3, 4-7, 7-1, M Castle (Ire) bt A Simon (Guer) 2-7, 7-4, 7-2. Section B: M Johnston (Ire) bt P Smyth (Ire) 2-7, 7-0, 7-5, C Le Poidevin (Guer) bt M Fetter (Can) 7-5, 7-6. Section C: J Lindores (Scot) bt J Davies (Wales) 7-4, 7-1, V Brown (Eng) bt S Noel (Jer) 7-4, 7-0. Section D: M Price (Eng) bt D Rowlands (Wales) 7-6, 7-2, M Monkton (Eng) bt V Stead (Jer) 3-7, 7-4, 7-5

CYCLING

TOUR OF BASQUE COUNTRY: First stage (128-mi): 1, R Sorensen (Den, MG) 2hr 49min 54sec; 2, A Sarov (Russ, Artech) at 13sec behind, 3, D Rebellin (It, MG), 4, A Olano (Sp, Mapei)

FOOTBALL

Monday's late results

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Stevenage 2 Kettering 2

UNIBOND NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE. Premier division: Droylsden 3 Hyde 3. First division: Caernarfon 0 Ashton 2. Gt Harwood 2 Bamber Bridge 2.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Hednesford 5 Rushden and Diamonds 2. Midland division: Ilkeston 4 Bedworth 1

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Sutton United 1 Chesham 2. First division: Rushp Manor 0 Uxbridge 0. Third division: Tring 2 Flackwell Heath 1.

WILKINSON SWORD LEAGUE CUP: Quarter-finals: Crusaders 1 Portadown 1

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Ipswich 2 Charlton 1; Swindon 2 Portsmouth 2. Watford 0 Queens Park Rangers 3. Tottenham 1 Wimbledon 1. Second division: Bournemouth 2 Plymouth 0

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: West Bromwich 2 Leeds 0. Second division: Birmingham Res 2 Sheffield Wed 1; Blackpool 0 Hull 1; Leicester 3 Bradford 1; Mansfield 0 Port Vale 3, Preston 2 Burnley 2, York 1 Newcastle 2

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Paggasus Juniors 0 Cinderford 2.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE. First division: Portsmouth RN 1 Hamdean O. Russell Cotes Cup. Semi-final: Poole General 1 AFC Lymington 2 (played at Lymington)

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: First division: Woodford 0 Old Roan 1

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST: Football League: Premier division: Belper Town 1 Scunthorpe 5.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE. First division: Portsmouth RN 1 Hamdean O. Russell Cotes Cup. Semi-final: Poole General 1 AFC Lymington 2 (played at Lymington)

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: First division: Woodford 0 Old Roan 1

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HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Paggasus Juniors 0 Cinderford 2

هذا من الاصل

Blowing the whistle on soccer's profiteers

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

Isn't it time for Channel 4's *Without Walls* to change its title image for *J'Accuse*? For years now, that iconoclastic chisel has vengefully gouged and sparked its way across such great cultural names as Dante, Beethoven, Le Corbusier, Haydn and James Joyce — but anyone waiting for a critical demolition of these past masters has been strung along like a proper patsy. The subject of last night's *J'Accuse* — a particularly well-mounted case, as it turned out — was Manchester United Football Club. Presumably there is nowhere else for such a personal, passionate essay: also a football club is popular culture, which somehow counts. Ho hum. Somewhere in a special department of Purgatory, Dante sends round the word to Beethoven. "Psst. *Still* nothing doing on *J'Accuse*. This week it's footie!" (To which Beethoven replies, rather predictably, "Pardon?")

Hunter Davies will not be a popular chap at MUFC this week. The main prong of his, er, prongy thing, was the transformation of this legendary football club into a national business phenomenon raking in millions through merchandising. Though Davies was careful not to harp on about the good old days, it was clear he had a Michael Palin-ish dream of the football supporter as a staunch, lonesome bloke with a 'tache and scarf, stamping his feet for warmth on the touchline, and cheering his local team while they lose at home. Actually, he did mention the former interval delights of a Bovril and a meat pie, so perhaps his nostalgia was obvious.

So the point was, Manchester United represents the antithesis to all this lone-bloke-and-muffler image. MUFC has fans all over Britain, it changes its strip frequently (just to exploit kiddie purchasing power, apparently), and its shops sell pin-ups of Ryan Giggs, some of them generously enlarged to be printed on scratchy bath towels. Alton Towers combined with First Direct and Marks & Spencer — that's the image now. Disgruntled fans refer to such enterprises as "prostitution". Tommy Docherty said: "They're stealing from the public." Having sold its birthright to satellite television, MUFC now schedules its games for the broadcasters, not the fans. It is shameful, all shameful. Children visit Old Trafford for the first time nowadays, and what they remember afterwards is the shopping.

Various rites of passage were celebrated on television yesterday. In the nicely made **Omnibus** (BBC 1) a first visit by the French film-maker Jean Renoir was described by a relative: "When he was first taken to a cinema, he was so excited he urinated in his pants!" (I was not convinced I wanted to know this.) On **QED: Sleeping it Off** (BBC 1), two methadone addicts were treated in Seville with a revolutionary, truncated cold turkey treatment, which involved a significant first brush with colonic irrigation. And on children's television, BBC 1's **The Lowdown** concerned an 11-year-old girl's first bra, and a 13-year-old boy's first shave.

The Lowdown was an enjoyable and clever documentary, though slightly unfair in that while it frequently zoomed in on the intriguing "bum-fluff" decorating young Nick's upper lip, it delicately kept its distance from young Rachel's equivalent developments in the breastal region. "I'll be glad when he shaves it off," said Nick's brother, supportively, "everyone thinks he looks stupid." At school, Nick was heckled by other kids in the playground, who among other things dubbed him "Nigel Mansell". Ouch. One forgets just how cruel children can be.

Back at Rachel's house, the issue of the burgeoning bust was complicated. Rachel has a twin sister, Helen, who looks nothing like her, and is too small to want a bra. Was Rachel tactful about this? It seemed not. These children's mutual disregard was beautifully handled in the film — just some mild bickering on a bed, along the lines of "You did". "I didn't". "You did". Nevertheless, one can't help hoping the parents have opened a savings account, to pay for Helen's inferiority therapy later in life. "Is there a good thing about being twins?" asked the unseen interviewer. "No." they both shouted, each trying to get it out first.

The Omnibus was a straightforward arts programme about a great director, featuring interviews with virtually all living French film-makers, with some Italians thrown in. It told Jean Renoir's story up to the Second World War and will continue next week. Archive bits from an old 1960s *Monitor* interview made me wonder, incidentally, what ever happened to *Arena*. *Cinema* — presented by Gavin Millar in the 1970s. Those shows must be in the archives, yet they never crop up. Perhaps they were just studio discussion. I can't remember. But I am sure there was a Renoir programme in 1978, because in those heady days I worked at *Radio Times*, and I remember the thrill of taking down Gavin Millar's billing over the phone. In particular, I remember trying not to sound offended when he spelt out the French.

Plus ça change. *QED*'s drug addicts, Rupert and Val, did their cold turkey in Spain under anaesthetic, despite assurances from an expert at the Maudsley Hospital that such radical, quick drugs cures were not a miracle answer. "I'm sure it makes good television," he said, "but it doesn't make good science." By the end of the programme, however, NHS working parties were leaning towards the Seville idea, which appears to have a higher success rate than our own system. We never learnt how Rupert got on with his colonic. But he looked a lot better afterwards than he did before.

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast. National and international business news including updates from the financial markets every 15 minutes (80501)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News. Includes extended bulletins on the hour and headlines every 15 minutes (3178969)

9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (3434704)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1859872) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (8233227)

10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine. Includes *Hidden Treasure*, an antique series presented by Eric Knowles (s) (8126414)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (6200037) **12.05 Pebble Mill** with Ross King (s) (2130766) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (69329940)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (76259) **1.30 Neighbours.** (Ceefax) (s) (86065686)

1.50 Going for Gold. General knowledge quiz. The question-master is Henry Kelly (s) (86069414)

2.15 Racing from Ascot. Julian Wilson introduces live coverage of the **2.30, 3.05** and **3.35** races. The commentators are Peter O'Sullevan, Richard Pitman and Peter Scudamore (s) (202327)

3.45 The Animals of Farthing Wood (r). (Ceefax) (s) (5249143) **4.10 Chipmunks Go to the Movies** (r) (7596940) **4.35 The Boot Street Band.** (r) (s) (3362853)

5.00 Newsround (1109056)

5.05 Blue Peter. (Ceefax) (s) (4190327)

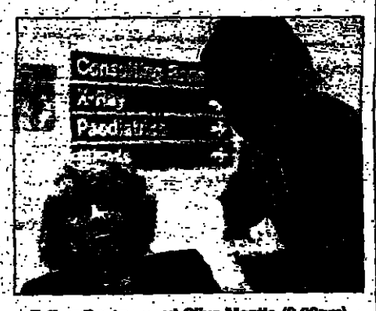
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (949037)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (476)

6.30 Regional news magazines (376): **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours

7.00 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel surprises another unsuspecting worthy. (Ceefax) (s) (7853)

7.30 Here and Now. Current affairs magazine (940)



Esther Rantzen and Clive Mantle (8.00pm)

8.00 Hearts of Gold. *Casualty*'s Clive Mantle springs a surprise on teenager Simon Riley, who saved his mother's life. (Ceefax) (s) (263747)

8.50 Points of View (Ceefax) (s) (325414)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8940)

9.30 Harry. Michael Elphick stars as the Midlands investigative reporter. This week, he homes in on the story of an escaped prisoner out to settle the score with the local police and the politicians who ruined his father. (Ceefax) (s) (463327)

10.20 Sportsnight: Paul Weir makes his first defence of his WBO light-flyweight title against Renato Magnamo. Plus previews of the US Masters, the Grand National and the FA Cup semi-finals (s) (1899056)

11.50 FILM: Fear Stalk (1989) starring Jill Clayburgh. A thriller about a television producer being hunted by a deranged killer after the contents of her handbag are stolen. Directed by Larry Shaw (443691)

1.25am Weather (8362490)

BBC2

6.20 Open University

8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (7031766)

8.15 Westminster On-Line (7594037)

9.00 You Must Remember This. Coming to terms with Alzheimer's disease (16414)

10.00 Playdays (r) (s) (8886263)

10.25 FILM: Carrie (1952) starring Jennifer Jones. A drama set in turn-of-the-century America directed by William Wyler (84605940)

12.20 Holiday Outings. The Zambesi (6202495)

12.30 Working Lunch (95747)

1.00 William's Wish Wellingtons (r) (s) (85316211) **1.05 Juniper Jungle** (r) (73771650)

1.15 Golf — US Masters 1994. Highlights (s) (7579037) **2.10 Songs of Praise** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (7967414) **2.45 Back to Work.** Osteopathy and chiropractic treatments (2996940)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross** (1607582)

3.50 News (Ceefax) and weather (2088921)

4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (969)

4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (853)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. (Ceefax) (s) (9296766)

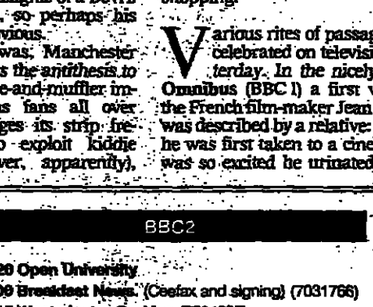
5.40 One Lump or Two? Series on tea (916834)

6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation. (Ceefax) (s) (836921) **6.45 Natural Born Footballers.** A profile of Kevin Keegan. (Ceefax) (s) (439476)

7.00 Churchill. Part three (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6834)

8.00 [redacted] Seven Wonders of the World. (Ceefax) (s) (4143)

8.30 The Swarm. A documentary about swarming jellyfish (r). (Ceefax) (s) (3650)



Burglar Danny Clark turns jester (9.00pm)

9.00 [redacted] Modern Times: Open Prison. (Ceefax) (s) (917582)

9.59 Close-Up. John Walters selects a scene from *The Wizard of Oz*; Mary Whitehouse, one from *Brief Encounter* (s) (552872)

10.00 Room 101 with Maureen Lipman (r). (Ceefax) (s) (63650) **10.30 Newsnight.** (Ceefax) (429691)

11.15 The End of Childhood? An investigation into childhood at the end of the 20th century (r) (s) (987037) **11.55 Weather** (343969)

12.00 Modelling in the Motor Industry (3779490)

12.25am Doctors' Diagnoses: Knowledge-Based Systems (1277167) **12.50 The Record.** The day in Parliament (7551902). Ends at **1.20**

4.00-4.15 BBC Select: *Benefits Agency Today* (13921693)

5.00-6.00 Voluntary Sector Television (68896)

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CHOICE

Modern Times: Open Prison
BBC2, 9.00pm

David Godfrey, Governor of Ford Open Prison in West Sussex, welcomes (if that is the word) the new inmates. His message is crisp: "I'm not saying it will do you good. It may actually do you a fair amount of damage." Prisoners are given sharp warnings of what will happen if they step out of line. But compared with what the old lags call a "bang-up" nick, Ford is a doddle, with lots of space and freedom and a jocular atmosphere reminiscent of PoW camps in British war films. Many of the prisoners are middle-aged, middle-class and serving time for white-collar crime, such as fraud. Their often uneasy relationships with the younger, working-class criminals form an intriguing sub-theme of Nick O'Dwyer's revealing film.

The Turnaround
ITV, 8.30pm (not Scottish)

Television's latest private eye, Nick Sharman (Clive Owen), is an unshaven scruff who chews gum, drives a battered BMW and seems to get the cases that nobody else will touch. We have seen him, or his like, many times before. Asked by a dodgy businessman (Bill Paterson) to investigate a triple family murder Nick says no. But fictional private eyes always say that and minutes later Nick is on the case. There follows a convoluted plot about villains who have fallen out over missing money and are prepared to kill to get it back. Scripted by the experienced Tony Hoare from Mark Timlin's novel, *The Turnaround* is pacey and efficiently made but scores few marks for originality and hardly any for wit or style.

Seven Wonders of the World
BBC2, 8.00pm

Stephen Jay Gould, the American zoologist and geologist and Colin Welland lookalike, adds his sevenpennyworth to a series which continues to defy an apparently rigid format. Diversity, in fact, is one of Gould's wonders, whether in nature, music or the human race. He finds it particularly in his favourite organism, a West Indian land snail. The anomalocaris, an ancient creature revealed by fossil hunters in Canada, is another object of awe, along with a medieval cathedral, Chartres, and a book, Darwin's *The Origin of Species*. Gould also pauses to contemplate the summit of Mount Everest and the amazingly short time which humans have occupied in the huge life-span of the universe.



Getting to grips with rock climbing (C4, 8.30pm)

The Great Outdoors
Channel 4, 8.30pm

With thoughts turning to warmer days and longer evenings, back comes the series on open-air pursuits. Cramming four items into half an hour means there is no time for finer points, but telephone numbers are usefully supplied for those wanting more information. Gliding is top of the bill tonight, as presenter David Burdus bravely submits himself to dizzying loops and spins. There follows a rock climbing controversy: are bolts fixed permanently into rock faces killing the sport? Then it is off to the Lake District where a party of children is looking for the real locations of Arthur Ransome's *Swallows and Amazons*. A friendly and enthusiastic show is rounded off with advice on outdoor clothing.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (6657178)

9.25 Chain Letters. Word game with Ted Robbins (s) (2522124) **9.55 London Today** (7788132)

10.00 The Time... the Place (s) (4111211)

10.35 This Morning. Weekday family magazine presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan (76597018) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) (s) (6299921)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (9193766)

12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (9101785) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (73662495) **1.55 Capital Woman.** Sally Mansfield, food and drink editor of *Family Circle* tours Billingsgate Market (s) (65771308)

2.25 A Country Practice (s) (58360211) **2.50 Blue Heelers** (1375940) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (4448143) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (4447414)

3.30 Alphabet Castle (r) (s) (8656211) **3.40 Wizadora** (r) (s) (2086563) **3.50 Talespin** (r) (s) (5222476) **4.20 Brill** (Teletext) (s) (6155105) **4.40 Cone Zone** (Teletext) (s) (7576143)

5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating (Teletext) (4184766)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (206969)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' opinions (110679)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (872)

6.30 London Tonight presented by Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster. (Teletext) (124)



Judith Chalmers takes to the road (7.00pm)

7.00 Wish You Were Here...? Judith Chalmers goes on a highly unusual motoring holiday in Portugal: Martin Roberts visits Speyside in the Highlands; and *Bruce Forsyth visits Puerto Rico, the island home of* his wife Wilnelia (2921)

7.30 Coronation Street. Gail hears a few home truths; and Dierdre anxiously awaits Samir's arrival (Teletext) (308)

8.00 The Return of Mr Bean starring Rowan Atkinson as the rubber-faced imbecile (r) (s) (8969)

8.30 [redacted] The Turnaround (Teletext) (s) (87637)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (67476)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (773766)

10.40 Champions League Highlights. Bob Wilson introduces action from tonight's semi-final first-leg matches between Paris St-Germain and AC Milan; and Bayern Munich and Ajax (777327)

11.40 Magnum. The laid-back detective is hired to protect Higgins's half-brother — a guitar-playing Texan (271196)

12.40am Alien Nation (s) (4849051)

1.35 Hollywood Report (s) (1124070)

2.05 The Beat. Music and movie magazine (s) (6005186)

3.00 The Album Show featuring Meat Loaf and Duran Duran (s) (1577506)

4.05 Shift (4639902)

4.55 The Time... the Place (r) (s) (2602544)

5.30 ITN Morning News (88308). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Spiff and Hercules Cartoon (7587563)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (59582)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (77853)

9.30 FILM: Forever Amber (1947) starring Linda Darnell, George Sanders and Cornel Wilde. A tame bodice-ripping adventure about a 17th-century young woman who has a series of affairs before becoming King Charles II's mistress. Otto Preminger directs (852679)

12.00 House To House Political magazine presented by Maya Even (64389)

12.30 Sesame Street. The guest is Andrea Martin (r) (33650) **1.30 The Herbs** followed by **Dig, Dug and Daisy** (r) (12414)

2.00 FILM: The Bedford Incident (1965, b/w) starring Sidney Poitier and Richard Widmark. Cold War drama about a US Navy destroyer hunting a Russian nuclear submarine in the Atlantic. Directed by James MacArthur and James B. Harris (693105)

3.50 Papageno. Animation by Sarah Roper (2080389)

4.00 Journeyman. Clive Gunnell look at the life and work of the Dorset poet William Barnes (Teletext) (227)

4.30 Fifteen To One. (Teletext) (s) (921)

5.00 Ricki Lake. The guest is Hilary Rich, author of *Get Married Now*, who has advice for women who want to find a husband. (Teletext) (s) (1689835)

5.45 Future Block. Canadian-made cartoon about computer-age banking (296582)

6.00 All American Girl. Domestic comedy. (Teletext) (s) (414)

6.30 Boy Meets World Rites of passage comedy series. (Teletext) (s) (766)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (662899)

7.50 The Slot. Viewers' video soapbox (s) (848817)

8.00 Brookside (Teletext) (s) (9211)

8.30 [redacted] The Great Outdoors. (Teletext) (s) (5018)

9.00 Dispatches. Current affairs investigative documentary series. (Teletext) (270563)

9.45 The Zebra Man. From the Short Stories strand, a story based on Major Horace Ridler, an upper-class Englishman who returned to London after the First World War and began an amazing transformation (r). (Teletext) (552747)

10.00 ER. American hospital drama series. (Teletext) (s) (827899)



Tina Turner is simply the best (10.55pm)

10.55 The Best of the Tube. The guests include Robert Palmer, Duran Duran, Tina Turner and Neil Kinnock (s) (386259)

11.30 Cheers More comedy from the Boston bar (r). (Teletext) (39230)

12.00 The White Room. Music series (r) (s) (77544)

1.00am Mojo Working featuring, among others, the Rolling Stones and Jimi Hendrix (r) (s) (89083)

1.30 Ray Charles — Live recorded in 1991 at the McCallum Theater (r) (8497099)

2.40 FILM: Happy (1934, b/w). Vintage British comedy musical starring Stanley Lupino and Dorothy Hyson. Directed by Frederick Zelnick (8337457). Ends **4.00**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (86053853) 2.20 Gardening Time (56352292) 2.50-3.20 Blockbusters (1375940) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (4184768) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (191495) 11.40 Urban Angel (3370118) 12.35am Alien Nation (5500341) 1.30 Hollywood Report (37902) 2.00 America's Top Ten (50490) 2.30 Shift (4212761) 3.20 The Little Picture Show (9443186) 4.15 Night Shift (13946902) 4.30 The Time... the Place (87898) 5.00 The Numbers Today (55322)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (86053853) 2.20 Gardening Time (56352292) 2.50-3.20 Blockbusters (1375940) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (4184768) 6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (191495) 11.40 Car of the Year 95 (741327) 12.10am The Hidden Room (3295051) 4.05 Jobfinder (1851525) 5.20 Naked Eye (7421148)

GRANADA
As London except: 12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (9101785) 1.25 Home and Away (49136850) 1.50 Highway to Heaven (8046879) 2.50-3.20 Coronation Street (1375940) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (4184768) 6.25 Granada Tonight (191495) 7.00-7.30 Wish You Were Here...? (2921) 8.00 The Return of Mr Bean (8969) 8.30-10.00 The Turnaround (87637) 10.35 Absolutely Supermodels (5744476) 11.05 Champions League Highlights (3782200) 12.05am Disaster Chronicles (5039588) 12.40 Alien Nation (4849051) 1.35 Hollywood Report (1124070) 2.05 The Best (8009186) 3.00 The Album Show (1577506) 4.05 Shift (4639902) 4.55 The Time... the Place (2602544)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.55 The New Mr & Mrs Show (65771308) 2.25 Good Advice (86351853) 2.55-3.20 Shortland Street (1375940) 5.10-5.40 A Country Practice (4184768) 6.30-7.00 HTV News (124) 10.30-10.45 HTV West Headlines and Weather (7[illegible]) 11.40 The Equalizer (271196)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 1.55-2.25 The Really Helpful Programme (65771308) 3.25-3.30 HTV Wales News (4447414) 6.30-7.00 News Tonight (124) 10.30-10.40 HTV Wales News and Weather (773766)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (7788132) 12.20pm-12.30 Meridian News and Weather (6299921) 1.55 A Country Practice (86053853) 2.20 *True...* But Strange (56352292) 2.50-3.20 Shortland Street (1375940) 3.25-3.30 Meridian News and Weather (4447414) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (4184768) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (872) 6.30-7.00 The Village (124) 10.30-10.40 Meridian News and Weather (773766) 12.35am Alien Nation (5500341) 1.30 Hollywood Report (37902) 2.00 America's Top Ten (50490) 2.30 Shift (4212761) 3.20 The Little Picture Show (9443186) 4.15 Night Shift (13946902) 4.30 The Time... the Place (87898) 5.00 Freescreen (55922)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (7788132) 12.20pm Westcountry News (8215969) 12.25-12.30 Westcountry News (6207940) 1.55 High Road (85771308) 2.25 Mastercrack (86351853) 3.25-3.30 Westcountry News: Weather (4447414) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (4184766) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (90292) 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News: Weather (773766) 11.40 *Donahue* (271196)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Calendar News and Weather (7788132) 12.20pm-12.30 Yorkshire: Calendar News and Weather / Bladelak: Network North (8239921) 1.55 A Country Practice (86053853) 2.20 The Restaurant Show (58352292) 2.50-3.20 Yorkshire: Calendar News / Bladelak: Network North (4447414) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (4184766) 5.55 Calendar. / Network North (495696) 6.30-7.00 Crossvits (124) 10.30-10.40 Calendar News and Weather (773766) 11.40 Film: Bright Lights, Big City (Michael J. Fox, Kiefer Sutherland) (766360) 2.05am Videofashion (2814457) 2.25 The Album Show (4309235) 3.35 Noisy Mothers (2323146) 4.30 Jobfinder (51760)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (58582) 9.00 You Bet Your Life (77853) 9.30 Forever Amber (852679) 12.00pm House To House (6747) 2.30 Carlton-Browne Of The F.O. (88503853) 4.10 Droopy (7505698) 4.30 The Cosby Show (921) 5.00 5 Pump (5316850) 5.30 5 Pump (1196582) 5.35 Fifteen To One (501) 6.00 Newyddion (830921) 6.15 Hanci (8211124) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (9933) 7.30 Nyr An Noson (650) 8.00 Amser Rhyfel Mewn Arall Dir (9211) 8.30 Newyddion (5018) 9.00 Tydi Coleg Yn Gic (1650) 9.30 Rap (14209) 10.00 Brookside (65018) 10.30 E.R.Blizzard (756834) 11.25 Dispatches (617765) 12.10am The Golden Girls (3763693) 12.40 Ellen (7556457)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am DJ Kat (22788) 8.00 Power Rangers (82178) 8.30 Blockbusters (82619) 9.00 The Oprah Winfrey (54699) 10.00 Concentration (833834) 10.30 Card Sharks (19853) 11.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (89899) 12.00 The Urban Peasant (32555) 12.30pm Anything But Love (33921) 1.00 St Elsewhere (38476) 2.00 Matlock (54563) 3.00 Oprah Winfrey (9807582) 3.50 DJ Kat (4583563) 4.30 Power Rangers (7501) 5.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (7722) 6.00 Murphy Brown (57565) 6.30 Family Ties (60[illegible]) 7.00 Rescue (1211) 7.30 M*A*S*H (8230) 8.00 Robocop (78488) 9.00 Picket Fences (88495) 10.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (81582) 11.00 David Letterman (269259) 11.50 *Late night* (883259) 12.45am Chances (4981544) 1.30 *The New WKRP in Cincinnati* (62273) 2.00-6.00 Hit Mix Long Play (2914148)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (6152785) 9.30 Entertainment This Week (55553) 10.30 ABC Nightline (17485) 11.00 World News and Business (397327) 1.30pm CBS News (57292) 2.30 Parliament Live (66178) 5.00 *Live at Five* (8339879) 6.05 Richard Littlejohn (8023056) 7.30 O.J. Simpson Trial, Live (3182263) 11.30 CBS News (35747) 12.30am ABC News (67070) 1.30 Fashion TV (26780) 2.30 Parliament Replay (25051) 4.30 CBS News (53322) 5.30-6.00 ABC News (63728)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (2232940) 10.00 A Far Off Place (1993) (44037) 12.00 Where the River Runs Black (1986) (68766) 2.00pm Stanley (1946) (72834) 4.00 California Man (1992) (5414) 6.00 A Far Off Place (1993). As 10am (92698) 8.00 Article 99 (1992) (97143) 10.00 Nowhere to Run (1989) (304766) 11.35 Mirror Images II (1993) (8038834) 1.10am The Arrogant (1957) (1287322) 2.35 Willie and Phil (1980) (192254) 4.30-6.00 California Man (1992). As 4pm (56877)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
2.00pm Showcase (61786) 4.00 The Appaloosa (1966) (78776476) 5.35 I Remember Mama (1948) (55973704) 8.00 Police Academy 2: Their First Assignment (1985) (53747) 10.00 Rosemary's Baby (1968) (87177673) 12.20-2.00am Lenny (1974) (856148)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
8.00am Battle Taxi (1955) (92018) 8.00 A Tale of Two Cities (1989): Animation (1405834) 8.50 Thumbelina: Cartoon (9930055) 10.00 Bad Lands (1939) (4746105) 11.15 Tarzan and the Mermaids (1948) (1111921) 12.30pm Sons of the Musketeers (1962) (89230) 2.00 Let's Make Love (1960) (70476) 4.00 A Tale of Two Cities (1989). As 8am (5708018) 4.50 Thumbelina: As 8.50am (8796495) 6.00 Stay Tuned (1992) (98988) 7.30 Special Feature — Terminal Velocity (1940) 8.00 The Cover Girl Murders (1993) (28785) 9.30 Consenting Adults (1992) (445327) 11.10 The Borrower (1991) (695227) 12.45am Married to It (1993) (122001) 2.35 Crisis in the Kremlin (1992) (4328877) 4.05-6.00 Stay Tuned (1992): As 5pm (486831)

● For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Soccer News (5683018) 7.15 Fish Tales (3317853) 7.30 Boots 'n' All (1036414) 8.15 Soccer (8377550) 8.30 Golf USA (71898) 10.30 Cricket: West Indies v Australia (31105) 12.00 Snooker. Live (2094766) 5.00pm Tartan Extra (1476) 6.00 Soccer News (918309) 8.15 Fish Tales (906553) 8.30 Get Your Handicap Down (3196) 7.00 Snooker. Live (628476) 10.00 Soccer (331476) 10.15 Rugby Club (753476) 11.15 NBA Basketball (795872) 1.15am Fish Tales (4950070) 1.30-2.00 Get Your Handicap Down (99341)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Aerobics (25871) 8.30 Skating (66792) 10.30 Football (59501) 12.00 Tennis (922057) 2.30pm Cycling (25325478) 4.15 Tennis (3337105) 5.30 Motorcycling (4679) 6.00 Formula One (4282) 6.30 News (8872) 7.00 Boxing. (40672) 9.00 Formula One (86563) 9.30 Motorcycling (66834) 10.00 Wrestling (12478) 11.00 Equestrianism (46056) 12.00-12.30am News (92029)

SKY SOAP
6.00am Loving (7536766) 8.30 Peyton Place (7535037) 9.00 As the World Turns (4472598) 10.00 *Guiding Light* (3656747) 11.00-12.00 Another World (3669211)

SKY TRAVEL
12.00 Globetrotter (7539853) 12.30pm *Zoo Life* (4814653) 1.00 Colorado River (3670327) 1.30 Cook Italian (4813124) 2.00 Australia (4493853) 2.30 Europe (5781394) 3.00 Discover America (1315056) 4.00 Travel Guide (1086788) 4.30 Zoo Life (91811[illegible]) 5.00 Thailand (4484105) 5.30 Cook Italian (1181330) 6.00 Venice (4331653) 6.30 American Vacation (8226898) 7.30 Australia (4236208) 8.00 Around the World (4480389) 8.30 Travel Guide (4492124) 9.00 Globetrotter (1390747) 9.30 America (2230853) 10.30 Thailand (7549230) 11.00 Venice (1395292) 11.30-12.00 Cruising (7824259)

TLC
9.00am The Joy of Painting (1757114) 9.30 Madalene Cooks (2220853) 10.00 World of Herbs (2834766) 10.30 The Dad Film (5357178) 11.00 Only Human (4090259) 11.45 Draw with Don (40206698) 12.00 The Creative Spirit (9644650) 12.30pm The Morgan Builder (88980582) 1.00 Madeleine Cooks (47918772) 1.30 Painting (2223940) 2.00 Jimmy's (3462834) 2.30 Cash In Hand (8854350) 3.00 Herbs (34819[illegible]) 3.30-4.00 Mad About Animals (8876105)

UK GOLD
7.00am Give Us a Clue (4701259) 7.30 Neighbours (4780766) 8.00 Sons and Daughters (8707899) 8.30 EastEnders (3652740) 9.00 The Bill (9957132) 9.30 Campion (6078105) 10.30 When the Boss Comes In (6888124) 11.30 Going for Gold (8302921) 12.00 Sons and Daughters (5557376) 12.30pm Neighbours (2233327) 1.00 EastEnders (4793230) 1.30 The Bill (2232698) 2.00 Bless This House (3464292) 2.30 Brush Strokes (8873018) 3.00 Knots Landing (8313037) 4.00 Dallas (8395872) 5.00 Going for Gold (84716211) 5.25 XYZ (84702018) 5.50 Hi-De-Hi (2526143) 6.30 EastEnders (8898327) 7.00 Brush Strokes (3473308) 7.30 Bless This House (8887211) 8.00 Adrian Mole Aged 13¾ (3484056) 8.30 Carry On Laughing (3463563) 9.00 Miss Marple: Nemesis (6333369) 10.00 The Bill (4107835) 10.30 *Top of the Pops* (3970018) 11.10 The Young Ones (8223495) 11.50 Dr Who (5584230) 12.20am FILM: Cat People (1942). B-movie classic from director Jacques Tourneur (3304456[illegible]) 1.35 Rich and Famous (48468812) 2.00 Shopping at Night

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
8.00am Sesame Street (8287389) 6.55 Garfield (8127308) 7.25 Eek the Cat (3024327) 7.55 Degrassi Junior High (3530921) 8.25 Super Mario Brothers (8142696) 8.45 Casper (8205872) 9.00 Sesame Street (10292) 10.00 It's Drosbee Time (11308) 12.00 Garfield (79834) 12.30pm Eek the Cat (953[illegible]) 1.00 Beverly Hills Teens (67124) 1.30 Super Mario Brothers (90846969) 1.45 *Baby Follies* (90834124) 2.00 Barney (6519) 2.30 Baber (37119) 3.00 *Casper* (4739747) 3.15 Bat and Ted (154655) 3.45 Sonic (5041[illegible]) 4.15 *Head to Head in 3D* (5761940) 4.30-5.00 California Dreams (1595)

NICKELODEON
7.00am NickAlive! (5674360) 7.15 Pee-Wee's Playhouse (100940) 7.45 Rugrats (109211) 8.15 Doug (285105) 8.45 NickAlive! (4421360) 9.00 Nick Jr (997501) 12.00 *Where on Earth Is Carmen San Diego?* (33018) 12.30pm Denver (82872) 1.00 Smoggies (32863) 1.30 Gabby High School (81143) 2.00 Chipmunks (9259) 2.30 Henry's Cat (6037) 3.00 Grimmy (8766) 3.30 Where on Earth Is Carmen San Diego? (1582) 4.00 Rude Dog (7389) 4.30 Rugrats (9501) 5.00 Clarissa (3211) 5.30 Odyssey (8283) 6.00 Doug (7766) 6.30-7.00 Are You Afraid of the Dark (9018)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Waterways (8888947) 4.30 Deadly Australians (8684124) 5.00 Treasure Hunters (3486414) 5.30 Stone Monkey (8875476) 6.00 Invention (5093308) 6.35 Beyond 2000 (5361327) 7.30 Encyclopedia Galactica (8885853) 8.00 Arthur C. Clarke's Mysterious Universe (3482698) 8.30 Mysterious World (3481105) 9.00 Wings Over the World (6264259) 10.00 Outlaws (6334016) 11.00-12.00 Sexual Imperative (4778921)

BRAVO
12.00 FILM: Dark Eyes of London (1939) (2543501) 1.30pm Smothers Brothers (22277656) 2.00 *The Avengers* (2822921) 3.00 Rat Patrol (3478495) 3.30 Hogan's Heroes (8803256) 4.00 FILM: The Guru (1969) (3472211) 6.00 It's Garry Shandling's Show (8892143) 6.30 Cannon (9701563) 7.30 Scotland Yard (8889679) 8.00 The Avengers (6331821) 9.00 The Twilight Zone (8316124) 9.30-12.00 FILM: Cabaret (1972) (4468853)

UK LIVING
6.00am Agony Hour (5995501) 7.00 Living Magazine (2502563) 9.00 Bazaar (6140582) 9.30 Kate and Allie (1439834) 10.05 Signs of the Times (1904124) 10.35 The Susan Powter Show (18165143) 11.00 The Young and the Restless (7742292) 11.55 The Simple Programme (74596853) 12.00 Kilroy (9619698) 12.55pm Take, Six Cooks (8647292) 1.30 The New Mr and Mrs Show (1145501) 2.00 Agony Hour (5915414) 3.00 Living Magazine (7399308) 4.00 Infatuation UK (8201292) 4.30 Crosswits (1687940) 5.05 The Joker's Wild (11889921) 5.30 Mediterranean Cookery (1956650) 6.05 The Susan Powter Show (63344141) 6.30 Infatuation UK (8201921) 7.00 Living Magazine (3192414) 8.00 The Young and the Restless (3178834) 9.00 Cagney and Lacey (31986986) 10.00 Charlie's Angels (1634292) 10.50 Steak Scenes — Neil (5989698) 11.00 Hit and Run (7302872) 11.30-12.00 Infatuation UK (5910969)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm Dangermouse (4969) 5.30 Cilli Hanger (17471) 6.00 The Big Dish (221259) 6.25 All Clued Up (8045821) 7.00 Trivial Pursuit (4105) 7.30 My Two Dads (1124) 8.00 Road to Avonlea (55105) 9.00 FILM: Ruth Rendell: Some Lie and Some Die (58282) 11.00 Lou Grant (77501) 12.00 Rhoda (20051) 12.30am Big Brother Jake (92780) 1.00 Dangermouse (90508) 1.30 Trivial Pursuit (33709) 2.00 Borderlown (85231) 2.30 The Black Stallion (28896) 3.00 Lou Grant (83685) 4.00 Rhoda (23341) 4.30-5.00 Big Brother Jake (11099)

MTV
5.00am Awake on the Wildside (60709) 6.30 The Grind (40969) 7.00 3 from 1 (1543476

ATHLETICS 35
CHECK THE RUNNERS AND TIMES FOR THE LONDON MARATHON

SPORT

GOLF 36
QUESTION OF RACE UNTIES AUGUSTA'S COLOURFUL LEGACY

WEDNESDAY APRIL 5 1995

Merson admits cocaine and alcohol problems made him consider suicide

FA targets young in anti-drugs campaign

BY JOHN GOODBODY

CHILDREN as young as nine could be randomly tested as part of the Football Association's £1 million campaign against players taking drugs, particularly "social" drugs such as heroin, cannabis and cocaine.

As Paul Merson, the Arsenal and England forward, admitted at the launch of the programme in London yesterday that he was "near suicide" as a result of his problems with cocaine, alcohol and gambling, the FA's educational programme was publicly endorsed by the Prime Minister.

After a season in which Merson, Chris Armstrong, of Crystal Palace, and two Charlton Athletic youngsters have tested positive for recreational drugs, leaflets and a video will now be shown to 15,000 players at 146 centres of excellence. The campaign will be backed by a testing programme.

Alan Hodson, head of the FA's sports medicine institute at Lilleshall, said youngsters as young as nine could be tested, although their parents would have to give their written agreement and a doctor of the same sex would have to be present at the urine sampling.

Although the FA believes that there is not a "significant drug problem" in football, especially with performance-enhancing substances, Graham Kelly, its chief executive, recognised that drug-taking "permeates the whole of society and football is not immune".

Merson, who admitted to taking cocaine and drinking excessively last November, said: "I consider myself very lucky. I made a massive mistake. I got given a second chance and I do not expect a third chance. I just don't drink, use drugs or gamble."

Asked about the ways alcohol and drugs affected his performance, Merson said: "I did not use drugs before the games but the drink really had an effect." Speaking about his state of mind at the time, he said: "I hit rock bottom. I was near suicide. There were times when I was at the wheel and I used to think about pulling over in front of a lorry."

Merson missed 20 games for Arsenal and undertook a rehabilitation course. Although he returned to the first team in February, he still visits the Southampton clinic where he was treated and attends three other meetings a week to talk over his problems. He has been tested seven times since November.

Merson, 27, who last played for England against Greece in May 1994, said his two ambitions were to win more trophies for Arsenal and gain more international caps.

Terry Venables, the England coach, who was also present, said: "I have great respect for Paul, who has come out and talked about it. I would welcome him back if he can put all this in the past."

Kelly described the campaign as "one of the most important with which the FA has ever been involved". The video contains footage of players such as Alan Shearer and Andy Cole and managers such as Ron Atkinson and Joe Royle warning players not to take drugs or to drink excessively.

In a written message to the launch, John Major said: "The importance of educating young people about the problems of drugs is a vital one and encouraging young people to continue an interest in sport while learning about those dangers is particularly valuable work."

The FA has become worried because young players, earning large amounts of money, are natural targets for people selling drugs. By distributing leaflets to youngsters and warning them that they might be drug-tested, it hopes to alert them to problems that they may face later in their careers. The FA has increased the number of tests from 80 last season to 360 this year, including random tests during training. These include tests for alcohol levels on the days before games, although the FA says that no adverse levels have been found.

The FA has also insisted that it will continue with its policy of confidentiality over the identities of players who fail tests, although this season their names have leaked out.

Kelly said: "Part of the message that we are trying to put across is that you cannot take drugs and hope to play professional football. Any period away from the game, however short, is a punishment for a professional sportsman."

David Davies, the FA head of public affairs, defended the sport's links with drink companies, including Carling's sponsorship of the Premiership. "The drink companies themselves are the first to condemn alcohol abuse," he said. "The companies are some of the most successful in the world. We are happy to be associated with their successes."



Merson, the Arsenal and England forward, at the launch of the FA's initiative against drugs yesterday. Photograph: Russell Boyce

Cantona set for contract talks

BY PETER BALL

RUMOURS of the imminent departure of Eric Cantona from English football were shown to be premature yesterday when Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, confirmed that the club will re-open talks with Cantona's agent about a new contract on Monday.

There had been fears that his court appearance and extended ban by the Football Association had soured Cantona's love affair with Manchester United. That is not so, apparently.

"Eric has told me that he wants to stay at Old Trafford and I have told him I want the same thing," Ferguson said yesterday.

United dismissed reports that Cantona's agent is due to meet officials of Internazionale in Paris today to finalise a transfer to the Italian club. "The only meeting his agent has got coming is with my chairman, Martin Edwards, next Monday, when they will be thrashing out the terms of a new contract for Eric," Ferguson said.

That may still take some doing if reports of Cantona's terms, which suggest pay of £25,000 a week, are accurate, but there seems little doubt that both parties are committed to an agreement. Unlikely as it seemed a few weeks ago, if a foreigner does leave Old Trafford, it is more likely to be Andrei Kanchelskis.

After reportedly playing with eight pain-killing injections for Russia last Wednesday, Kanchelskis is to see another specialist today in the attempt to solve the mystery of his stomach strain, which ruled him out of Sunday's draw with Leeds United. The suspicion is growing at Old Trafford that his remarks about wanting to join Rangers in Glasgow suggest that his commitment to the club is waning.

World Cup return may be in prospect for Botha

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

SOUTH AFRICA'S national rugby selectors yesterday named the veteran stand-off half, Naas Botha, to play in an exhibition match on Saturday, fuelling speculation he could be planning to come back for the World Cup.

Botha, 37, played last Saturday in a club game in Pretoria and said he would decide in mid-April if he was fit enough for the World Cup which kicks off in Cape Town on May 25.

Botha, who played his first international match in 1980, captained South Africa on their return to world competition in August 1992 but retired after the tour to France and England later that year.

Some critics said Botha had to shoulder part of the blame for South Africa's unimpressive record on their return to international competition – played five, won one, lost four.

The South African Rugby Football Union said Botha would play in a President's XV against a Transvaal Invitation XV in a curtain-raiser for the Super 10 final between Transvaal and Queensland at Ellis Park.

Francois Pienaar, the present South Africa captain, will turn out for the Transvaal Invitation side in his first match since a knee operation in December.

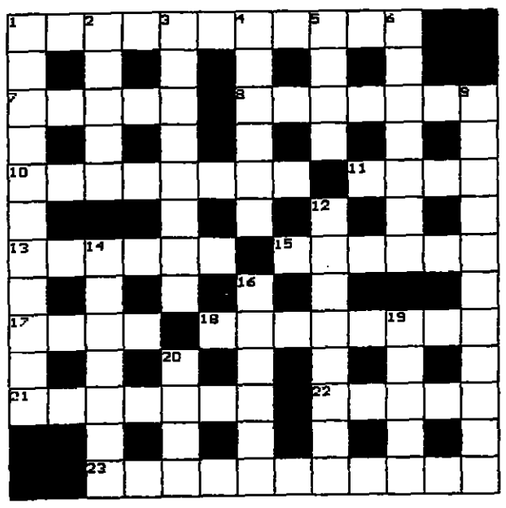
Pienaar's lack of match practice has thrown a cloud over his chances of making South Africa's World Cup squad, due to be named early next month after trials and a match against Western Samoa on April 13.

If Botha were available for selection for the World Cup, he could be seen as the answer to South Africa's lack of a consistent place-kicker.

Drug-testing will be carried out at the World Cup, Alexandre de Merode, medical commission president of the International Olympic Committee, said yesterday.

☐ Gregor Townsend, the Scotland centre, will be out of action for between four months and a year. An exploratory examination in Edinburgh yesterday revealed that the posterior cruciate ligament in his left knee has been completely ruptured. His treatment programme has yet to be determined. Townsend was injured in Gala's league match against Border rivals, Hawick, ten days ago.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 438

ACROSS

1 Scruple, feeling of remorse (11)
7 Bracer (5)
8 Place to tie up boat (7)
10 Prophetic; ambiguous (8)
11 Lady's formal dress (4)
13 Fetter; walk awkwardly (6)
15 I've got it! (6)
17 Almost closed (4)
18 Upland rural enterprise (4,4)
21 Emergency spare (5-2)
22 Higher (5)
23 Thorough rebuff (3,2,3,3)

DOWN

1 Affect each side (3,4,4)
2 Obsessional craze (5)
3 Separate (eg rail wagons) (8)
4 Fighting action (6)
5 Element; domestic appliance (4)
6 Offensively smelly (7)
9 French police (11)
12 Military leave (8)
14 Display of self-confidence (7)
16 Chinese transliteration system (6)
19 Garden of Eden fruit (5)
20 Timber-shaping tool (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 437

ACROSS: 5 Argue the toss 8 Popgun 9 Vulcan 10 Tusk 12 Fantasy 14 Keyhole 15 Coda 17 Banana 18 Ravage 20 Skipping-rope

DOWN: 1 Pat on the back 2 Agog 3 Shavian 4 Stiletto 6 Erne 7 Star-spangled 11 Schnapps 13 Flea-pit 16 Brag 19 Viol

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West Indies feel effects of morning after night before

FROM JOHN WOODCOCK IN BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS

THE West Indies cricketers, those idols of the Caribbean, find themselves in the unaccustomed position of being vilified. This is not just for having been beaten so resoundingly by Australia in the first Test match. It has since emerged that they had been out on the tiles on Saturday night, before surrendering so irresolutely on Sunday; so you may imagine the even greater outrage which that has caused.

On the last Australia tour of the West Indies it was the Australian bowlers who chose the wrong time to light up the Bajan night. Having just bowled West Indies out for 149 they thought they would not be needed again for a while. When, next day, Australia themselves were dismissed before tea their bowlers returned to action, scarcely able to locate the stumps.

I recall Allan Lamb, while standing in as England captain at Brisbane in 1990, and David Gower making the mistake of being seen with Kerry Packer, of all people, in a casino 50 miles out of town late on the night before England suffered one of their more horrendous collapses. To make matters worse, Lamb, not out overnight, led the procession next day. In 1959-60, Walter Robins, manager of the MCC team, considered it necessary to impose a curfew in Trinidad, though I do not remember this as being a particularly boisterous England side.

Ordering Godfrey Evans or Walter Hagen or Garry Sobers or Walter Hammond to bed at 10pm on the eve of a big match could have led to a succession of byes, missed putts or first ball dismissals. The secret, of course, is to do your own thing but to keep on winning, and in their attempt to get back into the right groove the West Indian selectors have dropped Sherwin Campbell and recalled Keith Arthurton for the second Test match, starting in Antigua on Saturday. Arthurton, in fact, averages 52 against Australia, a figure boosted by an unbeaten 157 against them in Brisbane two years ago.

For years West Indies were spoilt by having, in Desmond Haynes and Gordon Greenidge, the game's most formidable opening pair. Comparing them with Campbell and Stuart Williams, who went in first together in this last Test match, is like comparing men with boys. When Greenidge was pensioned off in 1991 Haynes was given Simmons for a partner, but with qualified success.

Now, with Haynes himself estranged from the West Indies board, the position is dire. The chances are that Richardson will go in first with Williams in Antigua. Simmons, for all his weight of stroke, is thought to have failed too often at Test level (he averages only 23 from 41 innings). Williams, however, is doing no better (11 Test innings, average 18). For the moment, anyway, West Indies are in a muddle — and next month, don't forget, they are due in England.

☐ Worcestershire learnt yesterday that they will have the services of Tom Moody, the Australian batsman, this season. Moody has been omitted from the Australia A party to tour England during the summer and will report back to New Road in time for Worcestershire's opening match. The county had made contingency plans to replace Moody with David Houghton, the coach, as overseas player.

Graeme Hick, the other leading Worcestershire batsman, has recovered from the back problems that forced him to miss the last two Test matches of the Ashes series in Australia.

Essex have appointed Nasser Hussain as vice-captain to Paul Prichard, who succeeded Graham Gooch as captain. Mark Ilott, who returned early from the England A tour of India with a hip injury, reported back fully fit when the Essex squad trained yesterday.

SQUAD

R B Richardson (capt), S C Williams, B C Lara, C L Hooper, J C Adams, K L T Arthurton, J R Murray, S Chanderpaul, C E L Ambrose, C A Walsh, W K M Benjamin, K C G Benjamin, R Dhanraj



Arthurton: recalled for second Test

Dramatic finale to defender series

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN SAN DIEGO

IT WAS showdown II here last night as Bill Koch's women's crew battled against Dennis Conner for the right to meet *Young America*, Kevin Mahaney's top-seeded yacht, in the finals of the defence trials for the America's Cup.

The race was to be a rematch of the lop-sided event on Sunday, in which Conner unexpectedly recorded a victory by more than four minutes over Koch's *Mighty Mary*. This time, the Texas multimillionaire expected his women's team to prevail.

Both have a lot riding on the outcome. For Conner, defeat would mean that he has not reached the finals, as a cup challenger or defender, for the first time in 21 years. Koch, who has upwards of $30 million (£19 million) riding on the outcome, needs a victory to unlock the sponsorship pledges that will maintain the charitable status of his huge foundation.

"We dodged one bullet on Sunday — we're confident," Paul Cayard, who shares the wheel of *Stars & Stripes* with Conner, said before the race.

"I hate sudden deaths like this," Dawn Riley, Koch's crew boss, admitted candidly. Despite the millions behind the women's challenge, Conner's frugal challenger began the match as favourite.

His crew has a 12-5 win/loss record against Koch's and a 5-3 edge over the latest boat, *Mighty Mary*, which includes a 3-2 lead since David Dellenbaugh took over as tactician.

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